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(The national voice of Indo-Canadians)

Coming events casting shadows?

New Delhi (IBS) - There has been quite a storm over the arrest on January 29, of a former Director of the Central Bureau of Investigation who had investigated a case against Prime Minister's son Sanjay Gandhi under the Janata regime. His name is N.K. Singh.

The 11-edition, mass circulation **Indian Express** has in an editorial posed questions which are in every citizen's mind. The newspaper says that this is the first time that an officer who had investigated a case and was handling it on a day to day basis has been arrested even as the Supreme Court is actively hearing the case. He was forcibly removed from his house without a warrant or any other official paper. The new Director of the CBI whose express permission was required before Singh could be moved outside Delhi, when contacted by Singh for help and guidance, told him that he would ring him back but never did.

Singh was ostensibly arrested on the basis of a complaint filed in May 1977 which had been examined at that time and found to be baseless.

Even though Singh was specifically placed under arrest in Gurgoan and then released on a personal bond both the Law and Home Ministers insisted in both Houses of Parliament that he had never been arrested.

Ministers and other spokesmen of the Central Government tried to disclaim responsibility for the arrest saying that the affair concerned the Haryana Government and not the Central Government.

Finally in the Rajya Sabha the Home Minister tried studiously to distinguish between arresting a person, picking him up for questioning and apprehending him on the plea that the difference is well laid out in Criminal Procedure Code. In fact, the Criminal Procedure Code makes no such distinction.

The last word has not yet been heard on this incident.

Mrs.Gandhi writes to Zia

New Delhi (IBS) - The Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, has sent a special letter to Pakistan's President, Zia-ul-Haq, which, although sources in her secretariat say is an acknowledgment of his congratulatory message to her on her assumption of office, is supposed to also touch on the subject of Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

India's Ambassador to Islamabad, K.S. Bajpal, who was in the Capital over the last few days, returned to his post with the personal message to Zia.

The Ambassador reportedly had talks with Mrs. Gandhi and the newly appointed External Affairs Minister, Narashimha Rao on the situation in Afghanistan.

India is concerned with the heavy influx of arms to Pakistan from both the United States and Great Britain. In fact, Pakistan had been recently offered $200 million by way of arms through a personal offer made by the US President, Jimmy Carter, along with a further $200 million as economic aid.

Britain's Foreign Secretary, Lord Carrington, informed Pakistan that his country had offered to give Pakistan 9.4 million pounds in aid. The form the aid would take was, however, not specified in his talks with Pakistan Advisor on Foreign Affairs, Agha Shahi.

While India is not worried about economic aid given to Pakistan, or any other country which needs it, a super power handing out hundreds of million dollars worth of arms and ammunition to a neighbouring nation is certainly a cause for concern.

Lord Carrington also visited India and held talks with the Indian External Affairs Minister and the Prime Minister on the fermenting Central Asian question, especially the affairs of Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

Sanjay to face trial

New Delhi (Reuter) - Feb. 12. - A New Delhi court yesterday ordered the trial of Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's son Sanjay on charges of conspiracy in the demolition of houses and shops four years ago.

The court overruled a plea by Mr. Gandhi's lawyers that the trial be abandoned because the charges were filed three years after the incident.

Chief Metropolitan Magistrate K.P. Verma said justice demanded that the delay in filing the case be disregarded.

Mr. Gandhi and two others, accused by the demolition of houses and shops along a highway outside New Delhi, were ordered by the court to provide bail bonds of $375 each by the next hearing on March 31.

Sanjay Gandhi, now a member of Parliament, faces about a dozen other charges.

Indian woman expelled

By Barbara Keddy

Feb. 12 - Harjit Kumar was taken weeping from a relative's apartment by immigration officials yesterday evening, and was dirven to Toronto International Airport where she was to be put on an Air Canada flight for London en route to New Delhi.

The 31-year-old Indian woman, illegally in Canada since 1977, lost a last-ditch effort to remain when the Federal Court of Canada refused to grant an injunction against her deportation.

Yesterday evening at 5:45, two immigration officers arrived at the apartment where Mrs. Kumar was staying on Dixon Road, and found the woman in bed with her clothes on. An ambulance arrived 30 minutes later and Mrs. Kumar, now weeping aloud, was moved from the bed to a stretcher in the glare of television lights, carried to the ambulance and taken to the airport.

She was to be accompanied on the flight by Dr. Robert Sprenger, an Air Canada doctor from Ottawa, and by a female immigration officer. Her brother, Avtar Singh, and another woman were allowed to be with her in the security area at the airport last night as she waited to be put on board.

Earlier, reporters had tried without success to interview her in English. At one point, asked whether she understood English, Mrs. Kumar made a vague gesture and then winced and clutched her side. A relative agreed to act as an interpreter.

What Mrs. Kumar said, according to the relative (who would not give her name) was that she was still feeling ill, that she did not want to go to India, and that she wanted to return to Canada "very fast."

Mrs. Kumar's health has been the subject of controversy since the beginning of her stay in Canada. Mr. Lockyer has maintained the woman is mentally unfit to travel to India, while Immigration Minister Ronald Atkey says she is physically well enough to go.

Mr. Lockyer, a New Democrat, is running against Mr. Atkey in the Toronto riding of St. Paul's.

At a press conference yesterday the minister suggested that the woman's remarriage early this month was one of convenience, and said her new husband, Ravindar Kumar, had told immigration officials he wanted his wife sent to India so he could sponsor her return toCanada in 12 months. Mr. Kumar later denied this.

Mrs. Kumar left York-Finch General Hospital yesterday against the advice of Dr. Jerry Cooper, chief of psychiatry, to spend some time with her relatives before being taken into custody by immigration officials.

Dr. Cooper said she was taken from the hospital by her brother and brother-in-law because "they said they felt they had caused a lot of troble for everybody." She had been admitted Saturday for observation after being released from the custody of immigration officials Friday on a $1,000 bond.

Following Mr. Justice Hugh Gibson's decision yesterday not to grant a temporary injunction preventing the expulsion, Mr. Atkey called a press conference to give more details of the case, which he called "desperate."

The Federal Court judge had ruled that the expulsion order was valid. The court, he said, had no power to restrain the minister from carrying through with the order unless he was committing an illegal act, which he was not.

Mr. Lockyer had argued that Mrs. Kumar's life would be endangered if she were sent to India, and that Dr. Cooper and Dr. Alan Long, a forensic psychologist, were prepared to testify about her mental health after examining her during the weekend.

Mr. Atkey said Mrs. Kumar has been granted "every legal and compassionate opportunity possible under the laws of Canada," but it was his duty to enforce the expulsion order and he would do so.

He said Mrs. Kumar came to Canada illegally on March 22, 1977. She was unable to appear for an immigration inquiry scheduled soon after her arrival because her doctor said she was too ill. In January, 1979, federal immigration officials issued the exclusion order. Unlike a deportation order, it permits the expelled person to return in a year with ministerial permission.

Mr. Atkey said two psychiatrists, Dr. Riho Kaida and Dr. John McTavish, at Etobicoke General Hospital, saw the woman on Jan. 22, 1980, and found she spoke English reasonably well and was "quite able to walk about on her own steam and fend for herself, although having a considerable flair for dramatization and appearing helpless."

She was again separately examined by two doctors, one employed by Air Canada and another by the Department of National Health and Welfare, while in custody at the detention floor of the Plaza Hotel last week. "Both declared her medically fit to travel and certainly not in the helpless and drowsy state in which she had been portrayed the previous evening on national television," Mr. Atkey said.

Just to be sure she was fit, he said he would have her medically examined again before the flight.

Mr. Atkey said the estimated costs of Mrs. Kumar's medical, hospital, detention and travel expenses in Canada exceed $62,000. The costs will be borne by Air Canada and the Department of Employment and Immigration.

He speculated that her marriage on Feb. 2 was one of convenience. Mr. Kumar, a Canadian citizen, "had been unknown to her but (he) had read of her case in the newspapers."

The minister said Mr. Kumar had got in touch with immigration officials and said he wanted his wife to return to India so he could sponsor her as a spouse after 12 months. Mr. Atkey said he would do what he could to facilitate her return from India.

But Mr. Kumar, who operates a Becker's Milk Store on Woodbine Avenue, said yesterday he had not talked to immigration officials about his wife, and emphatically denied he had told officials he would be happy to have his wife sent to India. He said he had tried repeatedly to phone the minister but had been unable to talk to him.

(The Globe & Mail)

Tight security at Canadian HC

New Delhi, Feb. 12 (UNI) - The Canadian High Commission tightened security measures to guard against "any Iranian threat arising from foreign minister Sadegh Ghotbzadeh's statement yesterday that Canada will have to pay for helping six US diplomats get out of Iran."

The High Commission closed both its front and rear doors and ordered its guard to allow only its own personnel inside. "Normally the gates are open and anybody can walk in," sources said.

The local police has already been guarding the Canadian, US and some other missions here for various reasons. Canada and the US had sought protection on their own.

Mr. Ghotbzadeh had said January 31 that six Americans, including two women, had been hiding in Iran till recently until the Canadian embassy helped them escape from Iran. All of them had escaped capture by Iranian students when they seized the US mission in Teheran in November last.

Reactions to the second Indira wave

By Professor V. Subramaniam

It was a case of unmitigated jubilation among Indians overseas and African politicians on hearing the news of Indira Gandhi's 'triumphant' comeback.

Every Indian one met heaved a sigh of relief that the dark night was over. African politicians and journalists were equally happy that a live and kicking India is coming back to strengthen the Third World. Two telling instances may be given to illustrate the strength of the African reaction.

The African newspapers either frontpaged the news or wrote glowing editorials. Thus the NEW NIGERIAN which is supposed to be close to the President of Nigeria published a full length editorial welcoming her. The WEST AFRICA published a good feature article. The president of Zambia, Kenneth Kaunda went furthest shedding all diplomatic inhibitions. The lack of a strong and respected government in India was the missing link in the Third World he said and bid her welcome.

African reactions are easier to understand. With the liberation of Zimbabwe dragging on, with a panicky South Africa and ambivalent Britain and U.S.A. Africa needs a strong India to support every initiative and to lend credibility to threats of retaliation. There is considerable disillusionment with China as well as Russia. The attitude to Russia is rather confused; those who have received Russian or Cuban aid such as Angola or Somalia are clearly pro-Russian while Zambia is rather suspicious. In regard to China, it came down heavily in African estimation twice over due to her Vietnam adventurism. The idea of punishing Vietnam was itself outrageous and Chinese failure in the punitive action made it worse. It was like the sight of a bullying headmaster caned by his student in retaliation. No African statesman will say any of these things in public but this disillusionment is a fact and the Chinese honeymoon with the U.S.A. looks like an idissoluble marriage in the eyes of the Third World.

All this means that a strong-willed India is needed and is seen to be needed to lead the Third World. This is not so clear in South East Asia where the leaders still do not know whether to fear China or Vietnam or Russia or the U.S.A. The need for Indian leadership is much clearer in Africa where the marginal anti-Indian feelings have melted away, thanks to Idi Amin. The Indian professionals as well as businessmen have in general earned the goodwill of Africans.

Indians overseas have in general been largely pro-Indira for obvious even selfish reasons. Inefficiency in Indian government and business hurt them most during their short visits back home and secondly, it hurt them in the West where critics threw it at them whenever they complained about any delay or dilly-dallying. The weakness of the Indian rupee before the emergency was a sore mental spot and India's economic wellbeing was a point of individual honour with them in their contacts with Westerners. But the Janata government provided many more seasons to be ashamed of it mainly in regard to foreign policy and parliamentary privilege. On the occasion of Carter's visit, though Morarji behaved with some mulish dignity, the Carter remark about a stiff letter to the Government of India on nuclear weapons was deliberately leaked to humiliate India. Instead of demanding an apology or at least inflicting some minor humiliation on the American embassy, the Indian government treated it as a joke. But the whole episode of Vajpayee's visit to China was both absurd and shameless. Any sensible statesman should have anticipated China's invasion of Vietnam and cancelled the visit. Vajpayee made it and scrambled back in a hurry with obvious discomfiture. Neither he nor the P.M. took much note of China's arrogant remark that it was a repeat of the 1962 invasion of India. Much worse, when China was well and truly humiliated by little Vietnam, none of them referred to it and to cap it all ignored the visit to China and antics of Subramanyam Swamy M.P. On the foreign policy front, India's stock was at its lowest under Janata rule.

Great claims were made by Janata about the preservation of civil liberties and every Janata M.P. talked loudly about the second independence struggle when they captured the Lok Sabha. The record of the Janata Government deteriorated very fast even in regard to civil liberties as they were unable to control the bureaucracy in the field. But their greatest blunder was using the power of the Lok Sabha to act as a Court to expel Indira Gandhi. This provision in the Constitution ought to have become defunct if Lok Sabhas had made rules under the provision which rules could be challenged in the courts. Janata shamelessly used a lawless provision to throw an elected member out thereby ensuring that South India would be permanently anti-Janata.

Overseas Indians are very sensitive about India's economic and foreign policy performance. Janata's failures on the economic front are too well broadcast in and out of India. India's failures in regard to foreign policy and poor performance even in terms of civil liberties were unfortunately slurred over by a vindictive English language press in India out for Indira's blood and eager to draw a veil over Janata's humiliating performance in this regard.

Overseas Indians exposed to gleeful anti-Indian comments in some American and British newspapers are ashamed at the way the English newspapers of India tried to cover the nakedness of Janata in foreign affairs.

MP has 13th CM

Bhopal (IBs) - The 13th Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, Sunder Lal Patwa, was sworn in on January 20.

Of the 12 Chief Ministers, who preceded Sunder Lal Patwa during 23 years of the existence of the State of Madhya Pradesh, only one - the late Dr. Kailash Nath Katju - completed one full term of over five years, while the shortest tenure of just seven days was of Raja Naresh Chandera Singh.

Shyama Charan Shukla, who served two terms with a break of 3 years, 10 months and 25 days, completed a total of four years and 67 days in office. In between, P.C. Sethi, Union Works and Housing Minister, filled up the gap.

Besides Dr. Katju and Sethi, D.P. Mishra was the only Chief Minister who remained in office the longest - three years and 10 months - at a stretch. Other Chief Ministers who served the State were: V.K. Saklecha (two years), the late D.R. Mandloi (one year seven and a half months), Kailash Joshi (six months 23 days) and Pandit Ravi Shankar Shukla, the founder Chief Minister of the State who died after being in office only for two months).

U.S. aid to Pak

New Delhi (IBS) - The United States has reportedly made a massive arms aid to Pakistan which runs into something like $400 million.

The aid, which is bracketed under two heads, $200 million for economic development and $200 million for military weaponery, will be given to the country over a two-year span.

The weponery, which includes anti-tank weapons, artillary and armour, anti-aircraft systems and other such equipment, has been billed under the head "Defensive weapons". This is along with some $150 million in arms to be given to Pakistan earlier.

Funnily, it is the Pakistan President, Gen. Zia-ul-Haq, who is apparently playing hard to get, a Washington paper claimed. Gen. Zia has reportedly tried to bite the hand which is feeding him, by telling the USA, that Pakistan had found US unfaithful in the past and the super power would have to prove its "credibility and durability", before Pakistan accepted arms and funds. "I hope these words would clarify the position," Zia said.

India, which had been protesting over the arms given to Pakistan, especially in the wake of unqualified Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, was told by the USA, that it need not harbour fears because most of the aid promised to Pakistan was only defensive - not the offensive supercharged aircraft which India had feared Pakistan might manage to secure.

President Carter, who is taking personal interest in the arms offer to Pakistan, sent two top aides, Deputy Secretary of State, Warren Christopher and Deputy Under Secretary of State for Economic Affairs, Richard Cooper, to negotiate with USA's allies about the emergency aid programme to Pakistan.

Sources in Asia and India are fearful that the offensive launched by way of arms aid to Pakistan by the US, might boomerang in its efforts to restrict Soviet intervention in Afghanistan and cause both Islamic nations to become powers in Central Asia themselves.

MGR to act again

Madras, Feb. 12 (UNI) - Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.G. Ramachandran said that he will resume acting in films from April.

Releasing a cinema fortnightly "Cinema Express" of the Indian Express group here he said his first film would be released on Deepavali.

Mr. Ramachandran said he would continue as the Chief Minister while acting if the law permitted, if not he would resign.

He would then hand over power to his lieutenant.

Mr. Ramachandran, still a hero for lakhs of Tamils, quit acting in films on his assuming office as the Chief Minister in 1977.

The controversy over resuming his film career had been the subject of heated discussions even in the state assembly.

He announced in 1978 that he would resume acting in films and a song was recorded for the film in April 1978.

He has acted in about 120 films so far.

Seventh Lok Sabha

By George Mathew

New Delhi - The seventh Lok Sabha was called into session on January 21. Jagjivan Ram, the oldest member and the leader of the Janata Party who was sworn-in pro tem Speaker by the President on the previous day administered oath of office to the newly elected members of Parliament.

Mrs. Indira Gandhi was the first to be sworn-in followed by her council of ministers. Mrs. Gandhi who entered the Lok Sabha five minutes before the scheduled time was greeted with cheers. She went round the aisle meeting her ministers, party colleagues and also opposition members. To the women M.Ps who she recognised she gave pat at their back and to others she returned a smiling 'namaste'. For her, however, many were new faces.

Although Mrs. Gandhi's Congress(I) has won 351 seats in the elections its strength at the time of the current session of the Lok Sabha was only 348. Mrs. Gandhi had resigned her seat from Rae Bareli and retained her Medak seat. A Congress(I) member from Kheri (U.P) died a couple of days after the election and another Congress(I) member from Gulbarga (Karnataka) has resigned from where C.M. Stephen would seek elections.

Frank Anthony, her counsel in the Shah Commission, and A.E. T. Barrow have been nominated to the Lok Sabha to give representation to the Anglo-Indian community under Article 331 of the constitution. Mrs. Gandhi's election ally, the DMK, has secured 38 seats.

Elections to the five constituencies, two which were countermanded due to the death of the candidates and three which fell vacant subsequently will be held on February 24.

The swearing-in of the new members covered almost two days of the current session. Half of the members are totally new to the House and need to be educated on the rules, regulations, procedure and privileges. Only a quarter of the members of the previous House could get the peoples mandate to return. At the same time a number of those who failed to get elected in 1977 following emergency excesses found their return to the House.

A peculiar situation today is that none of the political parties occupying the opposition benches has secured the minimum requisite number of seats (ie 54) to qualify to be called the Opposition party.

The one member from Sikkim belonging to the Janata Parishad has joined the Congress(I). His addition has been equalised by the election of the Congress(I) member from Punjab, Mr. Balram, as the Speaker.

The Janata party which won 299 seats in the 1977 elections has been reduced to 31, and its splinter group the Janata (S) or Lok Dal led by Charan Singh won 42. The CPM has 35 seats, DMK 16, Congress 13, CPI 18, Revolutionary Socialist Party 4, Muslim League, Forward Block and J&K National Conference 3 each, Anna DMK two, Akali Dal, Maharashtrawadi Gomantak and Kerala Congress one each and Independents 7.

The new House would be more colourful with 27 women members as against 18 in the previous House. There are three couples, the wives of former Prime Minister Charan Singh, former Railway Minister Madhu Dantavate and former member S.N. Sinha having been elected.

The new House would miss a number of able parliamentarians and veteran leaders who had always been an asset to the House and assistance to the Speaker. Some of them are: Morarji Desai, H.V. Kamath, Samar Guha, S.N. Misra, C. Subramaniam, N.D. Tiwary, M.N. Govindan Nair, Sreekantan Nair and Mrs. Parvati Krishnan.

The House will also miss the humour of Piloo Mody and the gimmicks, the head-dress and the walking stick of Raj Narain.

Among the new members who would receive constant attention on their performance and actions would be Sanjay Gandhi and his youth congressmen. Those of emergency fame like Bansi Lal, V.C. Shukla etc. are of no less importance.

The Rajya Sabha

So far as the co-ordination between the two houses Mrs. Gandhi would face the same problem as the Janata government had to face. In spite of the two thirds majority she commands in the Lok Sabha today she will not find her sailing smooth where the concurrance of the upper house is required where she doesn't have the requisite majority.

The Congress(I) has only 69 members in the Rajya Sabha with a total membership of 244.

The present party position is: Congress(I) 69, Congress 43, Janata 45, Janata(S) 19, CPI 9, AIDMK 9, CPM 7, DMK 2, Muslim League 2, Forward Block, PWP, RWP, Akali, RPI, Kerala Congress, National People Conference and Socialists one each, nominated 9, Independent 12, Vacant 10.

The Union Commerce Minister, Mr. P.K. Mukerjee has been appointed leader of the House in the Rajya Sabha.

Disastrous half year

The June-December, 1979 period was one of the most disastrous for the economy in view of the worst-ever drought the country has witnessed in this century.

During 1979-79, the rate of growth of gross national product was about 4.5 per cent, as against 7.5 per cent in the previous year. The industrial growth rate, however, increased to 6.9 per cent from 5.2 per cent in 1977-78. Trade deficit was Rs. 10640 million ($1330 million) as against Rs. 6,210 million ($800 million) in the previous year.

According to the latest data, a feature of 1979-80 was the re-emergence of inflationary trends in a big way, after a year of price decline. The all-India wholesale price index for all commodities (1970-71 - 100) reached a peak on November 30, 1979. This was 20.2 per cent higher than the price level on December 1, 1978.

A more disturbing indicator was the upward swing in the all-India consumer price index for industrial workers which showed a rise of 365 (based 1960 - 100), showing an increase of 23 per cent over the leave a year ago.

Rising world oil prices increased imports, slow exports, power and transport bottlenecks and increased budget deficit indicate hard times for the Indian economy during the 1980s.

Will Mrs. Gandhi's "Government that works" be able to successfully tackle these problems?"

20-point

New Delhi (IBS) - Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and her Congress-I have revived the 20-point programme which had fallen into disrepute during the emergency era, and, according to President Sanjiva Reddy, it is to be implemented dynamically.

The President was addressing a joint session of both the upper and lower houses of Parliament - the Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha. He also appealed to the ruling party and the opposition to put the past behind them and avoid unproductive confrontations in the interest of development.

The new government, he said,

Opposition out

New Delhi, India (UPi) - Opposition members stormed out of the upper house of Parliament to protest the leaking of a report charging relatives of two former prime ministers with using their family ties for personal gain.

The opposition accused the government of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi of deliberately leaking "portions of the report out of context" to defame the previous government.

Demanding the government place the whole report before Parliament, the opposition members then stormed out in protest.

The one-man commission of retired Supreme Court Judge S. Vaidialingam accused the son and

Myth of M votes

New Delhi (IBS) - Computer analysis by United News of Muslims in India vote en bloc for the Congress Party.

The pattern of voting in the 1980 Lok Sabha poll seems to have cast doubts on the validity of the theory that Muslims vote as a community.

In 64 constituencies where Muslims constitute between 20 and 50 per cent of the voters the Congress(I) polled 36.48 per cent which is a good 6 per cent lower than the party's national average, a computer analysis showed.

Janata, Lok Dal, Congress(U), CPI(M) and some parties of the Left Front together claimed 57 per cent of the poll in these constituencies.

Of the 64, 24 constituencies are in Uttar Pradesh, 21 in West Bengal, five each in Kerala and Andhra Pradesh, four in Bihar.

Bhinder n chief

New Delhi, Feb. 8 (UNI) - P.S. Bhinder, former Deputy Inspector General of Police, was appointed Commissioner of Police, Delhi, replacing J.N. Chaturvedi.

Mr. Chaturvedi returns to Uttar Pradesh, it is learnt.

Mr. Bhinder assumed office with immediate effect.

Asked if he could pinpoint the reason for growing lawlessness in the capital, Mr. Bhinder told UNI it was too early for him to offer any comment.

Mr. Bhinder, who joined the Indian Police Service in October 1958, came to Delhi as DIG in 1975. Before that he was DIG (Range) Ambala and SSP, Gurgaon.

Mr. Bhinder's wife, Sukhbans Kaur, is a new member of parliament having successfully contested the Gurdaspur seat on a

20-point program back

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The new government, he said, must give priority to the worsening law and order situation and the slackening economy. They must be tackled with determination and speed". He added that law enforcement agencies at the Centre and in the States would be activated so that problems are dealt with promptly.

Measures for the control of prices will be initiated. Stringent action would be taken against anti-social elements such as smugglers, blackmarketeers and hoarders, he promised on behalf of the Government.

The Centre will also tackle labour relations which have deteriorated in the last two years, scarcities in cement, energy, and steel.

On the foreign affairs front, the government would continue to steer the course set by the 1972 Simla Agreement (though Z.A. Bhutto has been hanged); with China, discussions may still be pursued in regard to sensitive issues; on the West Asia problem, the government repeats the oft-repeated expression that peace will only come when the "legitimate demands of the Palestine people" are conceded; with Russia, cooperation is to be deepened; and with the US, relations will be strengthened as it is a sister democracy.

Opposition walks out

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Demanding the government place the whole report before Parliament, the opposition members then stormed out in protest.

The one-man commission of retired Supreme Court Judge S. Vaidialingam accused the son and daughter-in-law of former prime minsiter Morarji Desai and the wife of former prime minister Charan Singh of the abuses.

Home Minister Zail Singh did not deny the report's contents as published and promised to present the complete report to the house during the next session, expected in mid-February. The current session ends Tuesday.

Desai appointed the fact-finding commission nearly one year ago under pressure from opposition members.

In the leaked report, Vaidialingam accused Desai's son, Kantibhai, of exercising "extra-constitutional authority" for his "own aggrandizement."

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Of the 64, 24 constituencies are in Uttar Pradesh, 21 in West Bengal, five each in Kerala and Andhra Pradesh, four in Bihar, two each in Gujarat and Assam and one in Rajasthan.

In West Bengal 18 of the 21 seats went to the CPI(M) and its electoral allies and the remaining three to the Congress(I).

In the 61 constituencies in West Bengal as a whole the CPI(M) and its allies polled more than 51 per cent of the votes.

This showed a sharp division among the voters, which was also reflected in the electoral outcome in the five constituencies where Muslims constituted between 20 and 50 per cent of the voters. The two rival fronts won two seats each.

The results from 125 constituencies where Muslim voters make up between 10 per cent and 20 per cent of the voters showed even more clearly that Muslim voters were as much subject to local pulls and pressures as other voters.

Bhinder new police chief

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Mr. Bhinder's wife, Sukhbans Kaur, is a new member of parliament having successfully contested the Gurdaspur seat on a Congress(I) ticket.

Mr. Bhinder was acquitted by a Delhi District and Sessions Court in the Sunder murder case.

Sunder, a notorious dacoit, carried an award of Rs 12,000 on his head. There were a total of 13 policemen accused of murdering Sunder.

District and Sessions Judge J.D. Jain, in pronouncing his judgement, had held that prosecution had failed to establish a case against Mr. Bhinder.

The judge had observed that by showing concern at threats to the lives of VIPs, Mr. Bhinder had not overstepped his official duty.

It was the Janata Government which had ordered a probe on April 6, 1977, into the circumstances leading to Sunder's death in police custody after his arrest in Jaipur in August 1976.

New minority govt.

New Delhi (IBS) - Mrs. Indira Gandhi's Congress-I government will be a minority one, according to computer reckoning. Her party polled only 42.6 per cent at the polls. In all past six general elections, too, the government had been in minority on the proportionate basis.

The Congress had polled 45 per cent in 1952, 47.8 per cent in 1957, 44.7 per cent in 1962, 40.7 per cent in 1967, and 43.1 per cent in 1971.

The seventh general election just concluded recorded a turnout of 55.5 per cent, higher than the other elections except for two.

Mistake realised

New Delhi (IBS) - The Janata Party has only 32 seats in the new Lok Sabha and the Lok Dal 41, and only now have some of them realised their mistake in splitting up. Moves have been initiated, but only tentatively to reunite the two and strengthen the opposition.

There is some small hope that Janata leader Jagjivan Ram and Lok Dal leader Charan Singh (both back in Parliament) will bury the hatchet, but at the same time there is a strong rumour that Jagjivan Ram is thinking of crossing over to Mrs. Gandhi's camp and retaining a Cabinet post. He has been in the Cabinet for 32 years, and does not like the idea of sitting in the opposition (and not being the opposition leader, either) for five full years. A nonentity, to his way of thinking.

However, critics believe actual unity moves are as yet far off, and that current attempts are mere 'wishful thinking'.

Guild protests

New Delhi, Feb. 12 (UNI) - The Editors' Guild of India expressed regret at the government's "hasty" acceptance of the resignation of the members of the Press Commission.

In a release the Guild said since the Commission members had nearly completed their work, the "proper thing for the government would have been to request them to complete the report, instead of accepting their resignations, submitted with a view to creating a new convention."

It sought an assurance from the Government that the Commission would not be kept in "suspended animation."

The release said: "The Guild seeks from the Government an assurance that this will not become an occasion for shelving the valuable work already done by the Commission."

Leftists win in Kerala

Assembly Seats: Total 140

Left Democratic Front: 93

Left Democratic Front Includes

CPI-M: 35
Cong.(U): 21
CPI:17
Kerala Cong. (Mani Group): 8
RSP: 6
All India Muslim League: 5
Kerala Cong. (Pillai Group): 1

United Democratic Front: 43

Cong.-I: 17
Indian Muslim League: 14
Kerala Cong. (Joseph Group):6
National Democratic Party: 3
PSP: 1

Janata: 5
Independent: 1

The following are sworn in as ministers:

Chief Minister - Mr. Nayanar.

The following belong to CPI-M:
Mrs. K.R. Gauri,
T.K. Ramakrishnan,
M.K. Krishna,
Aryadhan Mohammad,
P.C. Chacko,
A.C. Shanmughadas,
D.V. Purushotham,
P.S. Srinivasan,
E. Chandrasekhar Nair,
Dr. Subbarao

Baby John and R.S. Unni of RSP

K.M. Mani and L. Nambaban of Kerala Congress.

P.M. Abubekar of All India Muslim League.

R. Balakrishna Pillai of Kerala Congress Pillai Group.

New Delhi (IBS) - The so-called Indira wave was totally absent in the Kerala elections despite Mrs. Gandhi having personally campaigned there for her party and those her party was supporting. The Marxists ran away with a comfortable majority when the counting was done with.

A leading English daily pointed out that it might be more accurate to suggest that Congress-I success has been confined to regions which had suffered from Janata, Lok Dal and Congress-U misrule. Mrs. Gandhi was unable to sway areas such as West Bengal, Tripura and Kerala where the opposition, led by a disciplined party founded on a coherent ideology and leaders who have not made compromises for the sake of office.

Even Mrs. Gandhi's tactics of worship at the shrine of the patron saint of the influential Ezhava community and her prostration in a Trivandrum temple especially associated with the Travancore royal family did not impress the 75 per cent of Kerala's 13.27 million voters who exercised their franchise. They opted, in majority, for the Marxists and their allies.

Thus, the original bastion of Indian communism did not succumb to the persuasive appeal of Mrs. Gandhi. Had it done so, the end of other non-Congress-I State governments would have been hastened. As it is now, those governments are expected to take heart, while Mrs. Gandhi may think twice before ordering their dissolutions and re-elections.

Janata rejects charge

By Our Correspondent

New Delhi. The Janata party has refuted Mrs. Gandhi's allegation in her broadcast to the nation that she was assuming office at a time when the economy of the country was in ruins.

The party general secretary, R.K. Hegde, said in a statement that his party was proud of its economic performance while in office and was responsible only till July 1979 after which a caretaker government was installed. Thereafter the responsibility rested squarely with those including, Mrs. Gandhi, who manoeuvred the downfall of the Janata party.

Mr. Hegde said that despite increased offtake by the public distribution system and drought affected states, food stocks stood at 18.1 million tonnes in the middle of December 1979.

"This comfortable food stock position is being inherited by the new government despite an anticipated shortfall of about 12 million tonnes in the kharif production (due to draught) because in the two years of the Janata government - 1977-78 and 1978-79 - there was a peak foodgrain production of 126.5 million tonnes and 131.4 million tonnes."

"Mrs. Gandhi has also invented a 50 per cent fall in industrial production. The fact is that the index of industrial production which stood at 131.4 at the end of 1976 (on the base of 100 for the year 1970) rose to 138.3 and 147.8 in the two Janata years, 1977-78 and 1978-79 respectively. In the first quarter of 1979 (January-March) this index had risen to 159.8."

"Mrs. Gandhi also alleged that there was a sharp decline in exports during the Janata rule. The facts are that exports rose from Rs 5142 crores in 1976-77 to Rs 5404 crores in 1977-78 and to Rs 5691 crores in 1978-79."

"If the aim was to invoke sympathy for herself no one need grudge her patent exaggeration. But facts must also be given an opportunity to speak for themselves... given this record of agricultural and industrial production and exports, people can judge for themselves the worth of Mrs. Gandhi's statement".

Mr. Hegde said that while referring to deficit financing Mrs. Gandhi chose not to explain how much of it was due to steep increase in prices of oil and petroleum products, how much due to unprecedented drought, inanticipated expenditure on elections and maintenance of development outlay at a minimum level.

NATIONAL HERALD AGAIN

New Delhi, Feb. 12 (UNI) - The offices of the National Herald, the newspaper started by Jawaharlal Nehru, reopened Jan. 23 and the paper was out Jan. 24, after a gap of over ten months.

Yashpal Kapoor, Managing Director of the paper, said over 200 employees had resumed duty.

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ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION

The recent incident of an illegal Indian immigrant by name Mrs. Kumar, who was expelled from Canada to India, received a lot of media attention. Many Canadians sympathised with her helpless situation; probably many others applauded Immigration Minister Ron Atkey. The fact that Mrs. Kumar's lawyer is the NDP candidate opposing Ron Atkey was a significant factor in the high drama. Thus two politicians, during the peak of an election campaign, attempted to demonstrate their political views on immigration through this case.

If one adds up the cost to the Government of Canada in handling the case a conservative estimate would be $100,000. There is no denying the fact that the laws of the country should be obayed by one and all. Nevertheless one wonders whether there is not some room for compassion in the administration of the laws. Even courts often show such compassion in great measure. Especially after Mrs. Kumar got married to a Canadian citizen, was there a need to expel her saying that she did not know him before and, therefore it was a marriage of convenience. Does this mean that anyone who marries should cohabitate with the person concerned in order to really know the person? Is difference in cultural matters of no concern to the bureaucrats?

Incidents such as the one above will go on irrespective of which party is in power. Even if NDP forms the Government of Canada, there will be little difference. As an example one could cite the Socialist governments of Britain which have been, as racist as the conservative governments.

What is needed is a change in the attitude of Canadian society and Canadian government towards immigrants from Asia. There is no denying the fact that Canada cannot and need not take 50,000 or 100,000 Indian immigrants every year. Canada's resources are not inexhaustible. What is needed is a more humane treatment of people of such origins.

Was the $100,000 or so of tax payers money spent in sending away one woman for a year or so to India before permitting her to return to her duly-wedded husband a wise spending of the hard-earned money of Canadian tax payers?

Prohibition doesn't work

New Delhi (IBS) - Prime Minister Indira Gandhi said here that she preferred temperance to total prohibition. Mrs. Gandhi told pressmen that the Congress Policy had always been one of temperance, although it had centred around upholding the directive principles of the Constitution and prohibition.

Forcing prohibition on the people, however, would not work, for it would only lead to the masses taking to illicit liquor and subsequent death.

Mrs. Gandhi had stated that the prohibition bug was one instituted by Morarji Desai, while he was Prime Minister of India. She said that during his tenure as chief, he had rammed prohibition down the throat of the country. She said that even during his tenure, when he had held portfolio in her Cabinet, he had introduced prohibition in some States - but even there it had to be relaxed. She claimed that this had taken place in Maharashtra.

Mrs. Gandhi said that the need "to educate the masses on the evils of drink" was the factor that should be stressed. "If the rich man wants to die of drink, then it is his business", she was more concerned about the well-being of the poor man.

Bright Indian kids

New Delhi (IBS) - Second generation children from Indian families do better in schools in England than kids from that country.

A survey showed that while Indian kids got affection, love and understanding from their parents, giving them the will to succeed, the British kids, left to themselves had to lead an independent life, not really knowing the warmth of parental affection, especially in today's materialistic society.

India's glorious past

INDIAN ECONOMY, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN 17th AND 18th CENTURIES

By - Surindar Nath Gupta, St. Andrews West, Ontario

Author of British-the magnificient Exploiters of India.

In the previous article, we glimpsed very briefly over the economic condition of India from the ancient times up to the 17th century. In this article, we will glimpse, again very briefly, over the Indian economy, science and technology in the 17th and 18th centuries before she was begun to be subjected to the heaviest yoke of the strangers--the British--in 1757. The overall purpose of these articles is, of course, to present the grandest testimony of our history as told by the foreignors in support of the contention that "there was never in India a national ideal of poverty or squalor". If that would have been the case, we would have been indeed a nation of emasculated, famine-stricken, poverty-ridden people throughout our history as our **darshan** (translated as philosophy, but this is not adequate, English language does not have any equivalent of this word) is as old as India. That was not so has been told to us by foreignors after foreignors from the very ancient times up to the end of the 18th century -- a very long period of time indeed.

BULLDOZER

The British not only depicted us as barbarians and uncivilized, they exploited India so magnificiently and so thoroughly like a mighty bulldozer levelling to the ground the various mounds and hills, that even to imagine that India, only about 250 years before, both economically and politically (economically about 200 years before), was among the foremost nations of the world -- "first world" to use today's Western terminology--seems to be very difficult and unbelievable in view of the fact that she today is counted poorest among the poor--the "fourth world". But this is exactly what foreignors again and again tell us, and for the sake of truth we might better believe them that, comparatively speaking, **"there is no question as to India's prosperity previous to the British invasion...Pre-British India was not only the richest agricultural country in the world but also the greatest industrial and commercial power on earth."**

A Frenchman, Francois Pyrard, visited India at the commencement of the 17th century. Accounts of his voyages were first published in 1611 in French. After describing many varied manufacturing industries, he wrote: "In short, I **could never make an end of telling such a variety of manufactures,** as well as in gold, silver, iron, steel, copper, and other metals, as in precious stones, choice woods, and other valued and rare materials". He observed that **"all their manufactures... are both of good workmanship and cheap. I have never seen men of wit so fine and polished as are these Indians."**

He further wrote: "It can be said with assurance that he (Emperor Jehangir in whose reign Pyrard travelled in India) is lord of the **fairest and best countries, and of the most valiant people in the world,** as the Tartars are."

TEXTILES

The most important industry found in every part of India--a birthplace of cotton manufacturing--was the textile industry, famous throughout the world from the remotest times of the Indus Valley Civilization (circa 3,000 B.C) up to the beginning of the 19th century, although "nearly every kind of manufacture or product known to the civilized world--nearly every kind of creation of Man's brain and hand, exisiting anywhere, and priced either for its utility or beauty--had long, long been produced in India."

A French traveller and merchant, Tavernier, who visited India in the middle of the 17th century described some calicoes as "made so fine, **you can hardly feel them in your hand, and the thread, when spun, is scarce discernible."** He goes on to say that "there is made at Seconge (in the province of Malwa) a sort of Calicut (calicoes, or rather muslins, so called from the great commercial city of Calicut, whence the Portuguese and Dutch first brought them--Sir E. Baines) so fine that **when a man puts it on, his skin shall appear as plainly through it, as if he was quite naked."**

MUSLIN

Rev. William Ward, a missionary in Bengal, in the 19th century when Indian industries, because of the British, were rapidly declining, states that "the ingenuity of the Hindoos in this (muslin) branch of manufacture is wonderful...**When this muslin is laid on the grass, and the dew has fallen upon it, it is no longer discernible."**

In the time of Jehangir (1605-27), we are told, Dacca muslin could be manufactured fifteen yards long and one broad, weighing only 900 grains, i.e. about 2 ounces. Muslin "was made of counts above 400 and that a **Sari** (normally 6 yards long) enough for a full-grown woman could be drawn through an ordinary finger ring."

Various poetical names, such as the "Nightingale's eyes", "running water", "peacock's necks", "moon and stars", "woven air", and "evening dew" were given by the British and other European writers to such fine muslins, calicoes and silks, at the time when England did not even know how to manufacture them. (England started to produce calicoes and muslins in 1771 and 1781 respectively.)

Europeans tried unsuccessfully to imitate the Indian muslin and other textile products. Thomas Munro, who served the British company for most of his life, and who was governor of Madras, had used an Indian shawl for 7 years, and found very little difference in it after that long use. About imitation shawls produced in Europe, he said before the Committee of the House of Commons in 1813: "I have never seen an European shawl that I would use, **even if it were given to me as a present."**

No wonder an Englishman, Sir Edward Bains, as late as 1835, when the Indian industries were near their extinction, he woe to the British policies, wrote:

"The Indians have in all ages maintained an unapproached and almost incredible perfection in their fabrics of cotton. Some of their muslins might be thought the work of fairies or insects rather than of men."

UNIVERSAL

Besides being famous throughout the world, textile industry was a universal industry in India employing millions of people. Orme, a high official of the British East India Company, wrote in the latter half of the 18th century: "On the coast of Coromandel and in the province of Bengal, when at some distance from the high road, or a principal town, it is difficult to find a village in which every man, woman, and child is not employed in making a piece of cloth...much the greatest part of the whole provinces are employed in this single manufacture ...the progress of the linen (cotton) manufacture includes **no less than a description of the lives of half the inhabitants of Indostan."**

Dyeing was an adjunct industry to the textile industry. Even as late as 1880, a British author recommends Indian dyes for the English textile manufactures. Why? "Indeed the cotton tissues and stuffs of India have **always** been even more sought after for the beauty and brilliance of their natural dyes, than for the fineness and softness with which they are woven."

next issue.....

Case withdrawn

New Delhi, Feb. 12 (UNI) - Prime Minister Indira Gandhi has ordered withdrawal of all criminal conspiracy cases pending in Delhi courts against Mizo National Front chief Laldenga, according to informed sources.

This is an apparent move by the government to find a permanent political solution to the 15-year-old Mizo problem.

Prominent Congress(I) leaders from Mizoram, who have been here for the past one week, have been persuading the central leaders to resume the peace talks abandoned by the Janata government in February 1977.

The cases against Mr. Laldenga, who has been under house arrest since July 1976, relate to alleged criminal conspiracy for procuring an Indian passport on forged documents.

The Central Bureau of Investigation charge-sheeted Mr. Laldenga, his son David and a Rajya Sabha member, Mr. Bhagwan Din. The charge-sheet said Mr. Laldenga had tried to obtain the passport under the assumed name of "Samuel Sen" after getting a verification certificate from an MP in August 1978. Subsequently, Mr. Laldenga and others were released on bail.

Former Prime Minister Morarji Desai is reported to have been harsh with Mr. Laldenga when the latter met him in August, 1977. Mr. Desai reportedly told the rebel bluntly, "if you do not lay down arms, we will arrest you and award you appropriate punishment."

The caretaker government headed by Mr. Charan Singh also did not respond to Mr. Laldenga's offer in November 1979 to help in the resumption of negotiations to find a political solution to the problem provided the treason and criminal charges were withdrawn.

Mr. Laldenga has vowed time and again that he believed in finding a solution within the parameters of the Indian constitution. Even the National Conference of the MNF held in Calcutta in 1976 had passed a resolution to this effect.

GUYANA SEEKS INDIA'S HELP FOR PILOTS

New Delhi (IBS) - Guyana has asked India to help in training pilots and flight engineers for its airlines. J.B. Patnaik, Civil Aviation Minister, has apparently assured full cooperation in this sphere.

India may even loan pilots to Guyana, for opetation of their Boeing 727, Avro-749 and Boeing 707 aircraft.

INDO-GDR TRADE PACT

New Delhi (IBs) - Trade between the German Democratic Republic and India will be further expanded following a protocol for 1980, signed recently between the two countries.

The export will include chiefly machinery, electronic goods and chemical products and fertilisers.

Imports will include iron ore, protein and semi-finished leather and textile products.

India's

By Dr. A.M. Mathai

People in India and persons o Indian origin who are livin abroad were equally excited whe they heard that India had launc hed a communication satellite. They are happy to learn tha India's space program is a ambitious one. From newspape reports one gets the feeling tha India has made a big leap in spac technology and soon she will b competing with USA and Russi in outer space travels. During th past several occasions whenever visited India I wanted to see th space research facilities. Due t lack of time it did not take place But in December 1979 I decide to visit the Tumpa Space Centre This is India's headquarters space research. The Centr dispatched a car for us. Three u us, a friend of mine from USA the director of the Centre fo Mathematical Sciences at Trivan drum and myself, crossed th bustling city of Trivandrum travelled along the narrow curve British style roads through th picturesque coastal area throug the fishing villages of Tumpa. The Centre is situated on beautiful hill from where one ca see the blue Arabian sea on on side and endless greenery o coconut groves all around. Th security arrangement seemed t be very minimal possibly consis tent with India's policy of ope democracy. There was a bi crowd of people gathered aroun a tree. Our guide told us tha they were all workers at th Centre. Greyish looking buses something like a crossbreed be tween military trucks and th beatenup Trivandrum city tran sport buses, were loading an unloading the "workers" regul arly. We wanted to see th computer facilities, library etc.

One of the section chiefs took u to the computer centre. Ther was not a single soul anywhe around but there were a lot people wandering around at th corridors. Our guide told us tha by the year end usually lots people would be absent becaus they had to finish their casua leaves otherwise the casual leave would be lapsed! When w expressed our surprise how coul everyone there be on casual leav he suggested that others migh have gone for lunch. But it wa only past eleven in the morning. We figured that they might hav got their training in some Spanis countries where it is usual to hav an early lunch followed by a siest until three to four in the after noon. In the library the situatio was slightly better. Three to fou people were visible.

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After showing some of th departments our guide gave us running commentary about th whole setup. The Centre has large number of buildings. It h all sorts of divisions for researc development, fabrication of ro kets and launch vehicles, fabric tion of satellites and launchi facilities. The original plan w to centralize all the activities Tumpa but now some activiti are removed to Andra Prade and Bombay. It employs over t thousand people but the target for seven thousand. Most of the are the socalled support staff Lots of mechanical and electric engineers are absorbed eve year.

Our guide told us that the fi satellite was Indian made. Up

India's space program

By Dr. A.M. Mathai

People in India and persons of Indian origin who are living abroad were equally excited when they heard that India had launched a communication satellite. They are happy to learn that India's space program is an ambitious one. From newspaper reports one gets the feeling that India has made a big leap in space technology and soon she will be competing with USA and Russia in outer space travels. During the past several occasions whenever I visited India I wanted to see the space research facilities. Due to lack of time it did not take place. But in December 1979 I decided to visit the Tumpa Space Centre. This is India's headquarters of space research. The Centre dispatched a car for us. Three of us, a friend of mine from USA, the director of the Centre for Mathematical Sciences at Trivandrum and myself, crossed the bustling city of Trivandrum travelled along the narrow curved British style roads through the picturesque coastal area through the fishing villages of Tumpa. The Centre is situated on a beautiful hill from where one can see the blue Arabian sea on one side and endless greenery of coconut groves all around. The security arrangement seemed to be very minimal possibly consistent with India's policy of open democracy. There was a big crowd of people gathered around a tree. Our guide told us that they were all workers at the Centre. Greyish looking buses, something like a crossbreed between military trucks and the beatenup Trivandrum city transport buses, were loading and unloading the "workers" regularly. We wanted to see the computer facilities, library etc.

One of the section chiefs took up in the computer centre. There was not a single soul anywhere around but there were a lot of people wandering around at the corridors. Our guide told us that by the year end usually lots of people would be absent because they had to finish their casual leaves otherwise the casual leaves would be lapsed! When we expressed our surprise how could everyone there be on casual leave he suggested that others might have gone for lunch. But it was only past eleven in the morning. We figured that they might have got their training in some Spanish countries where it is usual to have an early lunch followed by a siesta until three to four in the afternoon. In the library the situation was slightly better. Three to four people were visible.

Some scientists at the Centre had approached the Centre for Mathematical Sciences with some technical problems. The director had requested me to talk to the applied mathematics division so that the technical aspect of the problem could be identified and put into mathematical framework. But the section chiefs were not around, apparently on casual leave. Our guide advised us that it would be better to fix up prior appointments so that the persons concerned would be around.

After showing some of the departments our guide gave us a running commentary about the whole setup. The Centre has a large number of buildings. It has all sorts of divisions for research, development, fabrication of rockets and launch vehicles, fabrication of satellites and launching facilities. The original plan was to centralize all the activities at Tumpa but now some activities are removed to Andra Pradesh and Bombay. It employs over two thousand people but the target is for seven thousand. Most of them are the socalled support staff. Lots of mechanical and electrical engineers are absorbed every year.

Our guide told us that the first satellite was Indian made. Upon detailed inquiries he said that some of the main components were imported. He said that the Centre had decided to buy satellites instead of fabricating them in India. According to him this was to avoid any delay in the space program. We could see the real reason later. When we asked about the rockets he said that rockets are being developed but right now they rely on foreign made rockets for launching foreign made satellites. From the design, the outlays, location etc. one could see that Dr. Sarabhai was a man of vision. He was the only driving force behind the space program. But as the reader may know that he died mysteriously in his hotel room. If my information is correct it was claimed that the death was due to "heart failure in deep sleep" and post mortum examination was not allowed. One can say that thus ended the space program.

Our guide was very nervous and he looped out of the conference room at least once in every ten minutes while giving a running commentary about the activities. We could not figure out why. One of us in the group was a woman but she was on the wrong side of sixty. Since we could not solve the puzzle we asked him about his uneasiness. He said that a gherao could be expected anytime and he was worried that we would be stuck inside the Centre. That was why he was nervous because the driver himself might be a part of the gherao team. We had seen some placards there. But placards and slogans are not new in India. On almost every public building in India one can find either some union posters belonging to the various workers unions or some slogans belonging to political parties. At the Centre we saw the placard saying something like "Have you seen the chairman? The chairman has no backbones. The chairman has absconded" etc. We did not pay much attention.

We learnt that as in the case of all government and private enterprises in India the space centre is also hit with labour problems one after the other. For one agitation the issue was the increase in food prices at the cafeteria. The loss for subsidising the food was eating up a good portion of the budget. Hence the administration decided to increase the prices a little bit. Another strike was in the name of a rumour that the Space Centre would be shifted to some other place. On the day we visited, the acting director could not meet us because he was locked up in a meeting with the union people the whole day. We checked with his wife at 8 pm. He had not reached home even by then. His worried wife was waiting without knowing whether he might be gharaoed or harmed by the workers. One section head narrated the story of workers pushing open his office door threatening to kill him. He was literally shivering when he narrated the incidence. The atmosphere there is such that it is impossible to carry out any sort of work let alone research and development. From our short visit we could see that it has become a graveyard for creative talents. Nothing new can come out of such a situation. No research and development can be kept secret either. If a director has creative ideas and if he is ambitious to push for creative development his life will never be safe there. Any foreign power can create a labour problem there and shut down the Centre by spending less than one hundred rupees.

The main fault is the type of democratic system in the country. The way things are, only corrupt and intellectually bankrupt fellows can ever hope to be political leaders. When these leaders come to power they want to create jobs for the people - mainly their supporters. Since they do not have any farsight they order the employment of more people in the existing concerns. When there is not even one person needed for a certain job about 100 people are employed there. Then the portfolio is divided and subdivided to create work for the 100. Then it becomes humanly impossible to carry out that job. Why does a research scientist need one person to bring his tea, one person to remove a file from one desk to another, one person to lift up the receiver when the phone rings, two typists when there is practically nothing to type, one person to open the office door and wait at the door, one receptionist; one fellow to go to the library and bring books etc. etc. when the research scientist's job requires only a pen and some paper? When all these people, who are employed, have nothing to do the whole day it is natural that they look for some sort of excitement in the form of gheraos, hartals and jathas. It is natural that they look for some issues to create excitements. When dozens of political parties are competing for bringing the workers under their fold issues are bound to come up. There are fourteen officially recognized political parties in Kerala. How can a research scientist ever do any work when two typists, usually middle aged men with unshaven faces with ever disgruntled look and chewing pan are sitting idle and watching him, when a chaprasi with dirty uniform standing idle by the phone which is on his desk at arms distance, when another chaprasi with white but dirty uniform standing guard to the empty tea cups on a beatenup tray at one corner of the office, when another chaprasi in dirty brown uniform standing at the door and watching him?

The most interesting part of the episode took place when we visited the person who was in charge of the Operations Research and Quality Control Unit for a long time. According to him he was in charge of a number of sections one time but now he looks after some two or three sections. He explained the activities in non-technical language. We thought that he might be an administrator and possibly an IAS officer. Then he told us that he was a technical personnel with a doctorate in some branch of engineering. He said that he wanted to ask a technical question to us. This was apparently puzzling him for a long time and he got a real opportunity to clear it with mathematicians and statisticians. We thought that finally at least one person had a technical question. He said that he knew the parametric equation PV=RT connecting pressure and volume and he wanted to know the parametric equation between Reliability Analysis and Quality Control! Remember that the person who asked this "technical" question once headed the Operations Research and Quality Control Units according to his own statements!

Only when India has a government which can instill some discipline in the workers and political parties then only research institutes can function as research institutes. For efficiency and for the creation of research atmosphere it is essential to reduce the support staff to a minimum. It is essential to remove from the present employees those who are not really motivated and replace them with young scientists who have ability and imagination. These institutions of research and development at present function as grave yards for creative talents.

ASIF IN SCHOOL

Hyderabad, Feb. 12 (UNI) - Pakistan skipper Asif Iqbal visited Madrasa-e-Aliya, his old school here, to obtain his school leaving certificate.

It was a moment of joy and relief for Asif, who now has a document to prove his age.

Tilt in foreign policy

New Delhi (IBs) - The press and politicians in India are divided in two clear-cut camps over India's controversial attitude to the events in Afghanistan.

Every flight from New Delhi during the past two or three weeks has brought diplomats, journalists and other passengers from Kabul.

All these people have brought graphic accounts of the overwhelming Soviet military presence in Afghanistan and the resentment it has aroused among the people. The role played by the Russians has gone far beyond providing military assistance they are ruling the country.

Yet instructions went to our representative at the United Nations Brajesh Mishra to state that India had no reason to doubt Moscow's assurance that its troops went to Afghanistan at the request of the Afghan Government and would be withdrawn when requested to do so. According to the brief, India hoped that Soviet forces would not remain in Afghanistan "a day longer than necessary", thereby suggesting that their current presence was necessary. Mishra did not press for their withdrawal when he addressed the General Assembly on January 11.

Not even two weeks had passed Caretaker Prime Minister Charan Singh summoned the Soviet Ambassador to his residence on December 31 to convey "India's deep concern at the substantial involvement of Soviet military forces in Afghanistan" and to seek their withdrawal.

The shift in policy could not have been more obvious. The shift took place immediately after Mrs. Gandhi's victory in the mid-term Lok Sabha elections. Her desire to take a pro-Soviet stand was so strong that it was imposed on the External Affairs Ministry even before she took office. Charan Singh was still caretaker prime minister when Mishra took a line in the General Assembly debate that contradicted this.

Haste to publicise the shift in policy was also reflected in the unusual step taken by the External Affairs Ministry to inform the press about the brief sent to Mishra before the debate began. Clearly Moscow was being reassured as soon as possible. The tilt in its favour in Mrs. Gandhi's version of non-alignment was being restored.

The carefully-worded text of Mishra's speech appears to be a more reliable statement of India's stand than Mrs. Gandhi's varying remarks. In places the primary blame for developments in Afghanistan on "the attempts by some outside powers to interfere in the internal affairs of Afghanistan by training, arming and encouraging subversive elements to create disturbances inside Afghanistan.

The countries he meant were obviously the United States, China and Pakistan. Undoubtedly they have encouraged opponents of the Kabul regime, but this can hardly be compared to the massive induction of regular Soviet forces.

The price India has paid for restoring the tilt towards Moscow is heavy. To begin with, it meant discarding one of the few achievements of the Janata Government of befriending and reassuring smaller neighbours that India's size and power poses no threat to them.

This came out clearly in the UN General Assembly debate on Afghanistan. India abstained on the resolution calling for "immediate, unconditional and total withdrawal of the foreign troops in Afghanistan" (Russia was not mentioned by name). Bangladesh and Pakistan were among the 17 sponsors. Nepal and Sri Lanka voted in favour. Bhutan absented itself from the debate.

It was a particularly sensitive resolution for them. Not only is Afghanistan in the same region, it is also a small country occupied by a more powerful neighbour. Old fears have been reawakened and will not be claimed by India's stand.

The fact that Afghanistan is the first non-aligned country to be invaded by the Soviet Union extends the area of concern.

This was reflected in the UN debate. As many as 104 nations supported the resolution on Afghanistan. They included the vast majority of the non-aligned, the third world as well as countries of the western bloc. Only 18 nations opposed it; another 18 abstained. The voting pattern showed the extent to which India is now out of step not only with its neighbours, but also with the non-aligned community.

In the third world, the oil exporting countries are particularly important and India has done a lot to cultivate good relations with them. But they were all on the other side in the General Assembly debate. The entire Islamic world, whose friendship India has sought, was ranged solidly behind the resolution.

This is not a transient issue. The occupation and its repercussions will be with us for a long time. The traditional cushion between the Soviet Union and the South Asian subcontinent has been punctured by the deployment of Soviet forces on the other side of the Khyber Pass.

If the Pakistan-Iran-Afghanistan triangle becomes a centre of great power conflict, no country in South Asia can escape the consequences.

Cases against Bansi Lal withdrawn

Chandigarh, Feb. 12 (UNI) - The Haryana government is likely to withdraw all the remaining 31 cases instituted against former defence minister Bansi Lal during the Janata regime.

An indication to this effect was given by Chief Minister Bhajan Lal when he told newsmen here January 31 that all the cases were being reviewed by the police.

He said Mr. Bansi Lal had requested him on the telephone to withdraw the cases. An application for their withdrawal was already pending with the government.

Mr. Bhajanlal said all those cases which were unjust or could not succeed in court would be withdrawn.

He replied in the affirmative when asked whether the cases filed in the Union Territory of Chandigarh regarding the alleged scandal involving the Haryana State Electricity Board would also be withdrawn.

Soon after becoming chief minister, Mr. Bhajanlal had withdrawn four cases against Mr. Bansi Lal arising out of emergency excesses. The then nine-member Congress(I) group had extended its support to the Ministry in the assembly session.

BCG vaccine useless?

By Francis Assisi

The final verdict on a massive medical trial conducted near Madras - described by the Indian scientific press as "not only the largest but the most carefully designed and executed study of its kind in Medical history" and by the New York Times as the largest study of its kind - has just been released simultaneously by the Indian Council for Medical Research and the World Health Organization (WHO). The stark results have stunned medical researchers and WHO experts.

The study said to be "most exhaustive and meticulous" reveals that BCG vaccine used extensively for tuberculosis control in India "does not give any protection" against the disease. Launched under the aegis of the ICMR (Indian Council for Medical Research) with assistance from WHO and the U.S. Centre for Disease Control in Atlanta Georgia, the experiment lasting more than seven years and involving 360,000 people was set up to assess the true value of BCG as an antituberculosis drug.

The study was conducted in 209 villages in Chingleput district and one town near Madras in Tamil Nadu. The study population was divided into five groups; one group was given a placebo and the other groups were given a low dosage or a high dosage of one of the two strains of BCG vaccine. The researchers found that the incidence of tuberculosis was approximately the same for all five groups that were monitored.

Only a limited number of scientifically valid controlled studies of BCG have been done in the past and their results were conflicting; varying from 80 percent protection as a result of vaccination of North American Indians to nil in Georgia school children. Results of other studies also showed the same wide variation - 75 percent protection in Chicago infants, 31 percent protection in Puerto Rico, 14 percent protection in an Alabama population, 78 percent in British school children, and 3% percent protection among residents of Madanapalla, India. At the conclusion of the present study as reported in the Indian Journal of Medical Research, the researchers conclude that "BCG did not show any protection against the development of bacillary disease".

Expert thinking among medical scientists seem to suggest some reasons for the failure of BCG in the Indian study, among which the prevalence of an atypical form of TB bacteria is cited as one. Another reason being touted is that the vaccines for the trials were prepared in different laboratories from cultures that could have undergone mutation or genetic changes. Differences in virulence among the two strains used in the study could also have been important.

However it was learned that a meeting of the chiefs of quality control laboratories held in Copenhagen in 1978 concluded that the vaccines used in the trial were of good quality and genuine. The several BCG vaccines, marketed around the world are derived from the original French Vaccine developed by Dr. Albert Calmette and Dr. Camille Guein in 1921. The two strains studied in India were prepared in laboratories in France and Denmark and have been in use for many years. The materials and methods used in the study were scrutinized at a meeting of world TB experts in Madras in 1977 and it was then concluded that there were no flaws in the trial study procedures. Madras was selected for the study because it was one of the few areas in the world where a large relatively stationary population was affected by high rates of tuberculosis and where BCG was not being used.

Indian authorities meanwhile, have decided not to withdraw BCG until it is proven that BCG is also useless against other forms of tuberculosis affecting the brain and the bones. "It would be prudent not to disrupt the existing practice of BCG vaccination in infancy and early childhood" Dr. V. Ramalingaswami, director-general of ICMR is quoted as saying. Indian health authorities also believe that the drama dramatic reduction in the incidence of brain and bone TB in India has been due to the vaccination of some 250 million children since 1948.

It is expected that WHO experts who are meeting in Geneva in April to discuss the startling results of the Indian study will give the signal for a more world-wide research effort to investigate the revelation from this study.

Shakdher's praise for voters

New Delhi, Feb. 12. (UNI) - The Chief Election Commissioner S.L. Shakdher, has said that the seventh General Election has once again vindicated that the voters, despite their educational, economic and social constraints possess a measure of political sophistication which is expected only in an advanced democratic society.

In his foreword to the book The People's Verdict, brought out by the United News of India, Mr. Shakdher says the Lok Sabha elections had for the second time in three years made for a peaceful change of Government through the ballot.

"The successful completion of the parliamentary elections in India, particularly when in countries around the democratic apparatus is crumbling, can be said to constitute an important landmark, in the history of democratic India," he observes.

In his preface to the book, UNI editor and general manager, G.G. Mirchandani notes that for weeks before the elections data about the 1977 elections was fed into the computers produce "indepth studies, unprecedented in speed and variety in the annals of elections in India."

Mr. Mirchandani says: "For long the debate will rage why the vast Indian electorate acted in the manner it did in March 1977 and again in January 1980. In March 1977 the atmosphere was charged with the heat of the Emergency while in regard to the 1980 election every pollster and political commentator was proved wrong. Some reverses for the Janata Party and the Lok Dal were indeed expected given the unseemly infighting of the Janata years, but not on the scale actually witnessed.

"In terms of performance, unbiased observers agree that the three-year Janata record was not bad at all, except perhaps during the last six months, when prices soared and the law and order situation caused concern. In many Janata-ruled States, for example, in Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh, a number of welfare measures were put through successfully. There is no rational explanation for Janata's crash."

Mr. Mirchandani adds, "Mrs. Gandhi promised a strong and stable Government. Did the people place a strong General Government above their day-to-day creature comforts? Was it Mrs. Gandhi's charisma or her aggressive campaigning that helped her? Or was it sympathy for her for what she had gone through during those three years?

"No answers are attempted to these questions in this book. They are not easy to answer. What has been attempted is a faithful recitation of facts without gloss, leaving it to the reader to come of his own conclusions.

"But one conclusion stands out. It is that the Indian voter, with all his seeming simplicity, has once again demonstrated a measure of sophistication which may be expected only of an advanced democratic society."

The CPI(M) secured the highest number of votes per candidates fielded by it followed by the Congress(I) and the CPI.

The CPI(M) got an average of 191,1416 votes per candidate, the Congress(I) 171,161 and the CPI 106,712 votes, according to the book.

While the average poll per Janata candidate was 86,395 votes, the Lok Dal's average was 63,733. But the Congress(U) was able to muster only 11,410 votes per candidate.

Gulf money in Malayalam films

New Delhi (IBS) - Gulf money is pumping into the State of Kerala and into the coffers of film producers in growing amounts. The result a number of sex and violence loaded films have been produced in Malayalam, both for domestic and foreign audiences as well as for export to countries where the Malayalam - speaking population is concentrated.

Tamil films, too, are being caught up in the backlash of the money influx, but it still has to reach the proportion of its Malayalam counterpart. Malayalam speaking people in the Gulf countries have been remitting large amounts of money to their relations in Kerala. Much of this money is being diverted into film production. As the people producing these films have no background knowledge the quality of the films naturally suffers.

P.K.S. Pillay, Chairman of the Films Development Corporation, Kerala pleaded that production of films was a specialised field, and the Centre should take charge of it on a national basis and make proper funds available for the development of film culture in Kerala.

Case against Dara Singh

New Delhi (IBS) - Film actor and former wrestler and his brother S.S. Randhawa along with a thrid person were charged with filing false income-tax returns in the court of New Delhi Metropolitan Magistrate Ajit Bharihoke.

The three accused are partners in a firm, M/S Navyug Film Distributors, and had declared a loss of 10,500 dollars in their assessment returns from 1966-67. In 1967, a revised return was filed for a further 20,400 dollars. During the course of assessments, however, it was found that deposits to the tune of 20,000 dollars shown as loans by the company were fictitious.

The accused have pleaded not guilty to the charge levelled against them.

Asian Games

New Delhi, Feb. 12 (UNI) - The Asian Games will be held in India as scheduled.

During the last few months indecision about holding the Asian games had slowed down the construction of stadia for the purpose. The Government has now, however, taken a firm decision to hold the Asian games in New Delhi in 1982. Steps are being taken in ernest to complete the construction of the new stadia and the remodelling of some old ones to bring them up to international standards.

The work of construction of a number of new stadia has been entrusted to Central Public Works Department.

Works and Housing Minister, P.C. Sethi, accompanied by Education Minister B. Shankaranand and Agriculture Minister Rao Birendra Singh, visited the various sites proposed for the new stadia.

The final decision in selecting the sites will be taken keeping in view the requirements of proper planning, conservation of greenery and the convenience of citizens and visitors. It is planned to complete the buildings well in time for the Asfiad.

Indian experts for Uganda

New Delhi (IBS) - Three Indian experts will form part of a team which will train Uganda's top civil servants and managers for their role in rebuilding the country.

The six month programme, beginning in January-end, consists of short-term courses designdd to improve management skills, and includes agricultural and industrial project planning, public finance and taxation, manpower development and transport and shipping.

The Indians, Dr. Bhupendra Shrivastava, Dr. Om Prakash Chawla and Dr. S.R. Bharucha, will be part of a team of the East African Institute, based in Tanzania.

"The Ugandian programme is going to involve us in a big way, said Dr. Shrivastava," and we see the institute playing a major role in the reconstitution of Uganda's economy, he added. The experts have brought many new ideas with them to the institute and its training programmes, and five new courses have been offered to students here.

Three, developed by Dr. Bharucha, cover corporate industrial arrangements, and production planning

Pak wins hockey

New Delhi (IBs) - After going through the Champions Cup Tourney like a great big wind, with little opposition, Pakistan had a fight on their hands in the final play-off against Holland, and just managed two minutes from the end - to score the winning goal and lift the Cup 3-2.

India, once considered unbeatable in the game, finished a lame fifth, behind Pakistan, West Germany, Holland and Australia. Second spot was occupied by West Germany on points, not by Holland, who fitted in third.

In the final, Holland put the fear of the devil into Pakistan by going into the lead and attacking well thereafter. Pakistan never had it so tough in the tournament, but that virtual last-minute goal, may have had a replay on their hands. And the way the Dutch were playing, the Cup could have gone either way.

West Germany fitted into second place by drawing with bustling Australia 3-3. A loss would have put Holland into that place, and West Germany would have fallen third. They defeated Australia after trailing by a goal.

In fact, Pakistan won on a gift goal - the sturdy Dutch defender Bolhuis deflected the ball into his team's own goalmouth to give the host country a goal it had not scored.

Hockey chief resigns

Madras, Feb. 10 (UNI) - M.A.M. Ramaswamy has resigned the presidentship of the Indian Hockey Federation.

In a statement he said he was resigning as all his efforts to successfully guide the destinies of the Indian Hockey Federation had been unsuccessful.

He hoped India would soon regain its "pristine glory" in the world of hockey under the "aegis of a more dynamic leadership."

Mr. Ramaswamy, who took over the presidentship of the IHF in 1974, told UNI that he had contributed a little to the game. In 1975 India had won the World Cup at Kuala Lumpur. The same year India won the Rene Frank Tournament.

However, he said, the fortunes of the country in world hockey took a turn for the worse from 1976 when it participated in the Montreal Olympics. The dismal show was repeated during the 1978 World Cup and in the international tournament in Australia. The poor show was continued in the recently concluded Champions Cup tournament in Karachi where India finished fifth.

He said that India should have two astro-turf playing surfaces, one each at Bangalore and Delhi. He felt that nobody should play hockey after the age of twenty-five. Those above the age of thirty should concentrate in propagating the game among youngsters.

He said though he had resigned he was prepared to extend his services to the game in any capacity.

India wins

New Delhi (IBS) - After a string of humiliating defeats in the current Champions Cup Tournament being held in Karachi, India outclassed Britain 6-3, but perhaps too late in the scheme.

Earlier they were hammered by Pakistan, Holland and West Germany. India are thus fifth in the table, behind Pakistan, West Germany, Australia, and Holland, having played all their six games, losing three, winning one, drawing two, and totalling a mere four points.

Even in the game against Britain, India were forced to come from behind and win, for at one stage India was 0-2 down and looking like digesting yet another drubbing.

On the other hand, Pakistan took look like the coming champions, and may have to worry only at West Germany, and perhaps Holland. The final could possibly be between Pakistan and West Germany, with the odds in favour of the host country winning through to the coveted Cup.

Lt.Governm cultural p

Mukhtyar S. Tomar

On the evening of January 26, 1980, Saturday, the Cardinal Cushing Auditorium, Mount Saint Vincent University, Halifax, N.S., was the venue for the Cultural Programme being presented by the East Indian community of the province of Nova Scotia. His Excellency Lt. Governor of N.S. John E. Shaffner, Mrs. Shaffner and the provincial Premier, Hon'ble John M. Buchanan were the guests of honour. Welcoming the distinguished guests, Karun Rakhit, President of Indo-Canadian Association of N.S. said that the East Indian community was delighted to have them at their cultural programme which fortunately coincides with the Republic Day of India.

Replying to the welcome address, His Excellency, the Lt. Governor expressed their pleasure to be at the celebrations. He further said that people from all corners of the world, with their different ethnic backgrounds have made Canada a unique country in the world. The distinguished guest concluded with the remarks that the East Indian community has played a vital role in this respect. The Premier also responded with the praise for our contribution to enrich the Canadian society and strengthen the multicultural fabric of Canada.

Then the past presidents of Indo-Canadian Association of

Sikh Conf

Considering the desirability of a dialogue among the Sikh associations of Canada, the Ottawa Sikh Society presents a Sikh Conference which will be held at Ottawa, a practical two-day intensive symposium, to discuss issues of national unity, multiculturalism and the role that Sikhs can play in promoting and enriching Canada's future, its culture and economy.

The Conference will be held on May 17-18, 1980 (Victoria Day weekend) at Carleton University Campus, Ottawa.

The objectives of the Conference are:

1. To recall Sikh heritage and inform the community in general of our religious and cultural background.

2. To devise a mechanism to establish communication among various Sikh associations in Canada.

3. To discuss the cultural

Mrs. Gandhi persecuted

New Delhi (IBs) - Former Prim Minister and Lok Dal leade Charan Singh denied in the Lo Sabha that Prime Minister Indir Gandhi had been an object o Janata persecution when he him self had then been Home Minis ter.

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Lt.Governor attends cultural program

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Then the past presidents of Indo-Canadian Association of N.S. were honoured with the beautiful plaques as appreciation of their service to the community. Those who were present at the ceremony included Dr. D.P. Varma, the founding President; Mrs. Nellie Sarkar for her husband, late Dr. S. Sarkar, Surinder Malhotra, Dr. S.B. Singh, Surinder S. Bhalla, Dr. S.K. Ummat and Mukhtyar S. Tomar.

The cultural programme followed these presentations. Ummat and Prawin Dayal were the Masters of Ceremonies. The action started with the Puja dance by Nishi Ummat. As usual, the Vyas family from Truro, N.S., excelled in singing and playing different instruments. Tabla playing by the young players Varun and Vineet Vyas, Punjabi duet by Mr. & Mrs. G.M. Anwar, Kathak dance by talented dancer Seema Desai, sitar recital by Mrs. Banerjee, Javanese dance by Grace Tampi, modern dance by Devki, Punjabi song and Giddha by a group of young girls and Punjabi dholak geet by the talented ladies in colourful dresses were among the highlights of the programme. The items of Bengali song by Jayanti and Karnatic classical music by Dr. Autre and his group complemented the programme, making it a true ALL INDIA PROGRAMME representing all four corners of the country.

Mrs. Usha Ummat, director of the programme, was presented with a bouquet of flowers. The cultural programme ended with the singing of JANA-GANA-MANA and O'CANADA.

The British Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, Lord Carrington with the Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi, in New Delhi, discussing the Afghan situation.

TN scraps prohibition

Madras, Feb. 8 (UNI) - Prohibition is being partially scrapped in Tamil Nadu.

Announcing the Government's decision to relax prohibition rules to a very large extent, Chief Minister M.G. Ramachandran said that anybody above the age of thirty years could obtain a liquor permit on payment of a fee of Rs 25 without production of any medical certificate.

He said this would come into force after the State legislature, which begins a session on Wednesday next, made necessary amendments in the rules.

Mr. Ramachandran simultaneously announced the withdrawal of all cases related to prohibition and the release of all dry law offenders now undergoing prison sentences.

He said all Tehsildars in the State would be authorised to issue liquor permits.

This was a measure aimed at preventing corruption and harrassment of the innocent by the police, he said.

Mr. Ramachandran, however, said that prohibition would not be totally lifted in the State and added that stern measures would be taken to prevent illicit distillation.

Regarding sale of toddy, Mr. Ramachandran said the Government's decision on it would be announced in the State Assembly.

He said Arrack in sealed bottles would be made available to permit holders.

A permit holder would be entitled to two units of liquor, that is two bottles of hard drinks or 24 bottles of beer, every month.

Mr. Ramachandran said the Government would not allow police to enter private premises to check whether liquor was being consumed.

Liquor permits were available, until now, to persons above the age of 45 on payment of Rs 100 on production of a health certificate from a medical board appointed by the Government.

Sikh Conference

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The objectives of the Conference are:

1. To recall Sikh heritage and inform the community in general of our religious and cultural background.

2. To devise a mechanism to establish communication among various Sikh associations in Canada.

3. To discuss the cultural, educational and religious aspects of the Sikhs.

4. To promote the common objectives namely harmony, co-operation and dissemination of various activities affecting the Sikh community in Canada.

Participants will gain and exchange valuable ideas and experience in this Conference and will learn about Sikhism, its ethics and spirituality, and how it can be transmitted to children and the younger generation in North America.

You are invited to participate in the Conference. For Registration and any other information contact:

Dr. B.S. Samagh
Chairman, Working Committee
for Sikh Conference 1980
52 Craig Henry Drive
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
K2G 3S7
Tel: (613) 828-8024

Heads may roll

New Delhi (IBs) - Senior bureaucrats in the Central government may be in for the chopper from Mrs. Indira Gandhi -- mainly those officials who were brought specifically by the former Janata government.

The Janata, udner Morarji Desai, had gone in for some head hunting on its own when it came to power; several Congress-I supporting officials were either retired or transferred to far off places; and though Mrs. Gandhi has assured one and all that her government would seek reprisals, it is believed that a number of pro-Janata officials are in for the axe.

Some of them, especially brought in by the Janata to man top posts in the government, include the Secretary of the Department of Personnel Administration, the Home Secretary, Secretary in the Prime Minister's Secretariat, the Secretary in the Steel Ministry, and the Health Secretary.

No official in the Law Ministry is expected to be shifted about or axed -- they had all rose up against the Janata rule before the elections owing to the death of one of its officials who had been threatened with reprisals by the Janata. Similarly, officials in the Finance Ministry may go untouched.

Mrs. Gandhi was not persecuted

New Delhi (IBs) - Former Prime Minister and Lok Dal leader Charan Singh denied in the Lok Sabha that Prime Minister Indira Gandhi had been an object of Janata persecution when he himself had then been Home Minister.

Amid vociferous interruptions by Congress-I members, he made himself hoard, pointing out that had there been any intention to persecute Mrs. Gandhi (for emergency excesses), she could have been jailed with ease, but that the Janata had tried to make a case against her through democratic means, such as probe commissions and the rule of law.

He thanked Mrs. Gandhi for her assurance that the Congress-I would not be vindictive, but he prepared to doubt her sincerity in this connection. While thanking her, he suggested she explain why she had, in 1975, declared an emergency and jailed opposition leaders and other dissenters simply because they had demanded her resignation following the Allahabad High Court verdict. Charan Singh reminded her that she had forced Dr. Chenna Reddy to resign after a similar court verdict, but in her own case she had made an excuse.

Meanwhile, almost the entire opposition stamped out of the Lok Sabha in protest against the introduction of a bill providing for preventive detention of smugglers, hoarders and blackmarketeers. Charan Singh himself also walked out though it was his own Lok Dal Government which had promulgated an ordinance to the same effect just before the mid-term poll.

Before walking out, the opposition pressed for the bill to be put to a vote. They lost, for the voting turned out to be 239 for and 94 against the bill. Then came the walk out.

Good Citizenship deserves a Medal

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Executive Secretary
Advisory Council
Ontario Medal for Good Citizenship
Queen's Park
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1A1

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Ontario Medal for Good Citizenship

New press commission

New Delhi, Feb. 12 (UNI) - The Government has accepted the resignation of the chairman and members of the Press Commission and announced its decision to reconstitute the Commission on "a more comprehensive set of terms of reference."

The Commission chairman, Justice P.K. Goswami, and the members had submitted their resignations.

An official announcement said that Information and Broadcasting Minister Vasant Sathe had written to Mr. Justice Goswami that the resignations had been accepted in the context of government's desire to reconstitute the Commission.

Mr. Sathe said "the government would like to continue the Commission on a more comprehensive set of terms of reference. This will be possible only if the Press Commission is reconstituted. It is in this context that the government has regretfully decided to accept your resignation as well as the resignations of your colleagues."

While submitting the resignation Mr. Justice Goswami had stated in a letter to the Prime Minister that "this letter is written not to embarrass the government nor to shirk the Commission's responsibilities for the task assigned to it but to establish a healthy convention."

The eleven-member Commission was appointed by the Janata Government in June 1978 and asked to submit its report by March 31 this year.

When the Morarji Desai government resigned in August last year, the Commission had tendered its resignation but was asked by the Charan Singh Government to continue its work.

Apple launcher

New Delhi (IBS) - A new Indian satellite "Apple" will be launched into space by a West European rocket, Ariane, in September. The liquid fuel rocket's capability was proved in December and became known when evaluation date on Ariane was released in Paris last week.

Space experts feel that the success of the Ariane rocket gives an alternative to India and other countries which now depends upon either the USA or the USSR to launch their satellites. A versatile rocket, Ariane will launch the Intelsat-V which is the latest in sophisticated communication satellites and handles the world's telecommunication traffic.

An European Sapce Agency and French Space Agency release states that project Ariane has met all the conditions for carrying satellites into space. The three stages of the rocket (separation position, velocity spin-up and stability) had been found satisfactory.

On its first trip, Ariane had carried no payload, only a dummy capsule to measure trajectory and environmental parameters typical of a payload. A second flight is due in May-June, and the "Apple" will go up after that.

I.K. GUJRAL RESIGNS

New Delhi, Feb. 12 (UNI) - India's Ambassador to the Soviet Union, Inder Kumar Gujral, has tendered his resignation, according to informed sources here.

After the change of government here earlier this month, Mr. Gujral expressed his wish to be relieved of his responsibilities as India's envoy, the sources said.

Mr. Gujral was nominated as India's ambassador to Moscow in 1976 by the then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. He was given a ministerial rank.

LALBHAI DEAD

Ahmedabad, Feb. 8 (UNI) - Kasturbhai Lalbhai, a prominent industrialist died here last month. He was 86.

Mr. Kasturbhai had developed a heart ailment. He passed away at 2010 hrs. at his Shahibaug Residence. He is survived by two sons.

A self-made man, Mr. Kasturbhai, who made a modest beginning in the textile industry by installing 336 looms in Ahmedabad, established seven textile mills within a span of 18 years and became one of the top ranking textile magnets of the country.

He was associated with Mahatma Gandhi and Sardar Patel in the freedom struggle and had played a leading part in organising foreign textile boycott.

Ban on taking kids out

New Delhi (IBS) - The Supreme Court has handed down a restraint, banning a woman from taking her two minor daughters to the United States. Her daughters had been placed in her custody by the Punjab and Haryana High Court.

The woman's former husband, an Indian, who had acquired US citizenship had married an American woman in 1961. They had three children - a son and twin daughters in 1965 and 1973 respectively. In 1978, the woman filed a divorce suit against her husband on the grounds of mental cruelty. The husband, however, came to India along with the children, where, after the woman was granted a divorce and custody of all three children by the New Jersey court.

Her husband, who married an Indian woman last year, however, filed a petition in USA for the court to review the order. The court there refused. He then took the matter to the Punjab High Court, claiming that the children's mother suffered from neurological degeneration, resulting in physical disability and mental disorder, and was not competent to look after her two minor daughters. From the High Court to the Supreme Court the case went on petition from the defendant. There, the bench comprising of the Chief Justice, Y.V. Chandrachud, Justice N.L. Untwalia and Justice R.S. Sarkaria issued the ruling in favour of the husband, giving him instructions to inform all the major airports in the land, in case his former wife tried to spirit the children out of the country.

Crime in Delhi

New Delhi (IBS) - Crime has become an every day affair and not a day has gone by without some incident taking its toll of life and limb.

On January 23, four dacoits, armed with sticks, swords and locally made firearms struck four times in suburbia Delhi, while in a busy shopping complex, three well-dressed youths, in a new car, tried unsuccessfully to rob a jewellery shop, before being foiled.

Robberies, murders, holdups and a kidnapping marred the early part of the week, while incidents of morning holdups of women who are denuded of their valuables including gold ear-rings and chains, have come legion.

Since the year began there have been 11 murders, five dacoities.

32 robberies and 19 attacks with intent to kill.

The new Home Minister Zail Singh, has been concerned enough to have ordered the transfer of Police Commissioner J.N. Chaturvedi - a Charan Singh legacy to the city - and bring in no other a personality than G.S. Bhinder of Sunder dacoit time.

Top level shuffles in the police, including transplantation of SHO's (Station House Officers) is in progress, but how far it will manage to help curtail crime is anybody's guess. The morale of the policeman is low, their duties and hours long and benefits too few.

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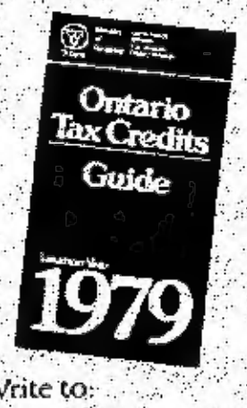

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Indian jew discrimina in Toronto

What does a Jew have to do to prove he is one?

That question has plagued two Jewish families from India since they immigrated to Canada 13 years ago.

Elijah and Jerusha Hyams and Solomon and Ann Samson say their families never experienced discrimination until they tried to become an integral part of Toronto's Jewish community.

In India, where Jews have lived since about 555 BC - when King Solomon's men were travelling to the Indian subcontinent for spices - there was tolerance, says Mr. Hyams. "We never had any problem; there was no persecution."

Perhaps the smallest of India's minorities, the tiny Jewish community numbered 35,000 at its peak, but now numbers only 6,000.

Young Jews have been lured to Israel by the promise of a homeland and to countries such as Canada by the promise of a better life.

But the 30 Jewish families from India who now live in the Toronto-Hamilton area have found that acceptance comes slowly.

"There are many Jewish people who are not aware that there are Jews in India," says Ann Solomon. "People say to us, 'you don't look Jewish' - that is the most common statement made to us."

Mrs. Samson says Jews in Canada, who came mainly from Europe, doubt that they are Jews simply because they look Indian.

"The color pigmentation is there. Whether it's with Jews or others, color is a great bar.

"They accept you up to a point, but there isn't total acceptance."

Like many Jewish immigrants without relatives or friends in Canada, the Samson and Hyams families turned to the Jewish Immigrant Aid Service when they reached Toronto.

Mrs. Samson said a JIAS representative found rooms for

Motivation mo for family pla

New Delhi, Feb. 8 (UNI) - The Central Government employees will be allowed to receive and accept motivation money under the family welfare programme. This would be termed as "honorarium" and given to Government servants who motivate people to accept the small family norm.

Some States and Union Territories are already giving incentives under the family welfare programme to persons who motivate people. Some of the State Governments have also allowed their employees to receive motivation money.

In view of the present policy of the Government, which lays a stress on education, persuasion and motivation in the implementation of the family welfare programme, it has now decided to adopt a uniform policy in regard to the payment of motivation money to Central Government employees and State Government employees.

In this policy, however, this is absolutely no place for any sort of compulsion or coercion.

Indian jews face discrimination in Toronto

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Mrs. Samson said a JIAS representative found rooms for them - in a building across from a burlesque hall on a run-down central Toronto street.

"All they did was deposit us there and drive off."

A JIAS case worker, Maurice Benzachar, said the Indian families had received help whenever it was needed. Last September they were given books and the free use of space in the premises of the Council of Jewish Women on Bathurst Street to celebrate the High Holidays. "We do keep contact and every time we can help them."

The director of JIAS in Toronto, Louis Poch, said he had no doubts whatever concerning the authenticity of the Jewish origin of the families from India. "They go back a long way," he said.

Their problems stem from the small number of Jewish families that have emigrated to Canada from India, Mr. Poch said. "They find themselves in a difficult situation, just as the East Indians in general. There's a color problem - not in the sense of discrimination - but they are visible."

The Indian Jews, says Jerusha Hyams, probably follow the precepts of their religion more strictly than Jews in any other part of the world, even Israel.

"Everybody has a family tree so we know where we're from," she says.

The two families are among a group of Indian Jews in Toronto who are attempting to found some kind of community organization, says Mrs. Samson.

Already the group has held prayers, which were attended by Indian Jews from as far away as Sarnia, Ont., and New York.

Mrs. Samson says the Indian Jews are working towards a larger, North American network and their own synagogue.

The reason the synagogue is necessary, she says, is that some Indian Jews have a difficult time arranging funerals if they are not members of local synagogues.

(Globe & Mail)

Motivation money for family planning

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In this policy, however, this is absolutely no place for any sort of compulsion or coercion.

While allowing Government employees to undertake motivational work, however, administrative authorities have to ensure that normal office work does not suffer.

APOLOGY FOR WRONG FORECAST

Lucknow, Feb. 9 (UNI) - At least one English newspaper has offered its profound apology "to its readers for its election forecast" which, according to it, went absolutely off the track.

The apology, published prominently by the Northern India Patrika here said: "We will not plead for compassion by arguing out the reasons because even with all these reasons the deviations would not be reconciled. We are tendering our apology with humility and we appeal that this be accepted graciously. We ventured an ambitious analysis of the election situation in the country in pinpoint the actual party positions, not in terms of percentage of voters but on the basis of each constituency. We have failed while doing so. Still, we shall look forward to further challenges."

Activist turns to acting

By Francis Aandal

When he jumped from teaching political science to seek political office in the City Council of Mountain View (California) in 1978, many of his supporters - apartment renters, minorities, and students -- thought the move was a logical one. Eapen Mathews at 26, they thought, was simply putting theory into practice by moving from the ivory tower to the hustings.

In a relentless door-to-door campaign Eapen became acquainted "first hand with the problems and issues involved in attempting to build a sense of community among the diverse ethnic, social, and economic groups". And despite his election defeat, he vowed to stay on and fight for social changes within the community. Under Eapen's initiative the Renters Association of Mountain View was founded to fight unethical practices by landlords.

Now that Eapen Mathai alias Eapen Matthews has leaped from political activism to a modeling and acting career, what is he really up to?

Eapen, who is soft spoken and with a "versatile look" is quite proud of his Indian background. The change in his last name from the anglicised Matthews to the Indianised version Mathai is, he says, a deliberate move to assert and maintain his Indian identity. Born in Tamilnadu of an Indian christian family, he moved to the U.S. in 1962. Both his parents are educators. Eapen went through schools in Michigan, New Jersey, Maryland, New York and Texas before moving on to California. At San Francisco City College and at two other local community colleges, he has taught courses ranging from American Government and International Relations to Third World Politics. He has also served in the San Francisco Bay Area as a counsellor in Rehabilitation of Alcoholics and drug addicts.

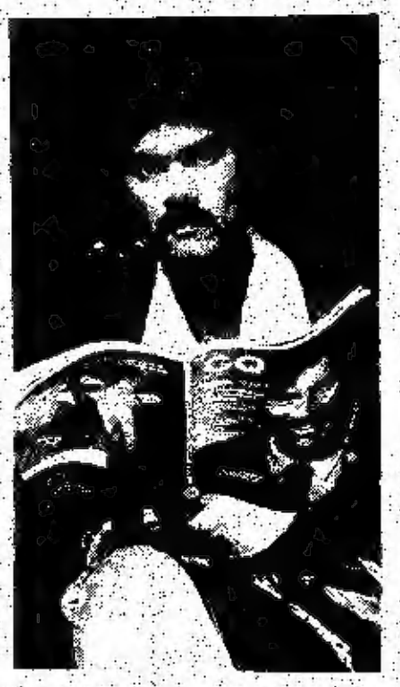
On a recent visit to the Bay Area, Eapen spoke of his modeling and acting career in Santa Monica. "I don't see this modeling as an escape from my political concerns. Rent controls and minority rights are live issues. I plan to build up a base in southern California so that I can return to politics in a direct way later on" said Eapen, who is still remembered in Mountain View for his personable approach and an untiring campaign drive. Eapen views his acting career, quite simply, as a means of livelihood. Proposition 13 cutbacks certainly made a severe dent on his teaching career. Having no other marketable skills, he took a serious look at his past theatrical experiences at school and in high fashion clothing sales. One thing led to another. He underwent training with the Chic Modeling Agency in Santa Clara and Lorraines in Los Altos before moving on to southern California.

As a fledgeling in the acting arena, Eapen knows that he has an uphill fight. In a highly competitive field his move to Santa Moncia must be seen as a move to where the fight is. He hopes to combine acting, teaching, and political activity wherever he is. That's Eapen's style.

So far he has had limited success. It is not insignificant by any means. He was given minor roles in three films; 'Loving Couples', 'Roller Boogie', and 'Gong Show Movie'. He has appeared in several television commercials including a recent one for British West Indian Airlines. He has made appearances in Los Angeles, Santa Monica, Northridge, San Jose, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Los Gatos for fashion shows. Listed with fashion and film agencies in Los Angeles and San Francisco, Eapen hopes to break into the kind of acting where his visible ethnicity would be a distinct advantage.

Currently Eapen is working on a film 'Golden Moments' scheduled for release in May, and in which he plays the role of an Indian athlete. The film revolves around the story of an Olympic team with a romantic twist involving athletes from the two major superpowers. In the same film Eapen also acts as an NBC cameraman. His appearance as a fashion model at the Humperdinck Dinner Club in Santa Monica was videotaped for the Feb. 13th 'Real People Show' by NBC.

In acting, as in any other profession, peer recognition is a valuable commodity. Eapen received a major boost in that direction when he was invited on Feb. 5th to join the Screen Extra's Guild, a professional union of actors. With membership in the American Federation of Television and Radio Actors (AFTRA), Eapen already views acting as his primary professional objective. Initiation into the prestigious Screen Actors' Guild would be next in his priority.



"I am looking for film or modeling agencies in Bombay that would be interested in handling assignments for me" said Eapen who still recalls his early school years in India with unabashed nostalgia.

AT AJANTA

AT AJANTA

Here, o Pilgrim, doth thy journey end;
Earth no more pursueth thee. The Stone
Hath here in Tapas sat, and lo, loosened,
Evermore from his bosom deep and rare his own
The World of gods and gandharvas, that greet
Undeterred, lone Eternity.
Who Here hath her home. Mark Indra meet,
In open Court the Lords of Destiny. See
On the Sea arise the Boar Divine, who now
Earth hath rescued. Behold the Three here
Their eternal conclave mystic hold above.
The lesser gods. Time enters not near,
Here - his earthly vesture loseth Man
To move with the gods, as Time afore began!

K.V.A.

Indo-French pacts

New Delhi (IBS) - India and France signed seven protocols on wide-ranging economical and technical cooperation after talks between French President Valery D'Estaing and India's Premier, Indira Gandhi.

The pacts relate to the setting up of a $7,000 million aluminia complex in Orissa, agricultural and rural development, renewable energies, petro-chemicals and fertilisers, industrial and commercial co-operation in ocean sciences and technology and development of local mining in India.

In agriculture and rural development, Indo-French cooperation in the field will touch $1,000 million

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Pongal-Indian Thanksgiving

By: Manjula Das [Parshot]

"Thai-Pongal", one of South India's esteemed festivals was celebrated in Toronto. This festival generally falls on January 13th or 14th of each year and it marks the auspicious period when the solar movements shift from the southern hemisphere (dhakshinayan) to the northern hemisphere (uttarayan). It is a time of thanksgiving after the harvesting of crops and a ritualistic farewell to "dhanu" (considered a bad month) and ushering in of a new month. The ceremonies of the day commence at sunrise, when after a bath, the ladies start cooking sweet milk rice (called pongal) in a new pot on a clay oven facing the east. The pot is decorated with turmeric and leaves from the ginger plant tied around it. On the previous day, the house is whitewashed and thoroughly cleaned, old things are discarded, entrances are decorated with mango leaves and kolam (designs drawn on the ground with rice flour) and special foods are prepared. Friends and family visit each other to exchange pongal greetings. Ideally everyone, irrespective of financial status, age or sex participates in this festival.

In South India, on thai-pongal day, a visit to the temple is a must. Temples considered to be the place of sanctity and purity, make provisions for the public to do their pongals on the temple premises.

Entertainments consist of bullfights and cockfights among rural folk, kite flying by children and "kummi" and "kolattam" which are community dances. In today's modern era however, the community get-together aspect is more prominent and the festival is more a social event than strict adherence to ancient rituals.

The day following thai-pongal is set aside for "Mattu-Pongal" celebrations. Just as thanks is given to the Supreme Power - the Sun on thai-pongal, equal honour is given during mattu-pongal to the cattle who have contributed largely to human well-being and prosperity. The cattle are washed, turmeric rubbed on their horns, their foreheads are marked with bright vermillion and garlands of flowers are hung around their necks. Pongal is prepared in the same manner and fed to the cattle. This day must always be one of extreme bewilderment to the poor cow who during the other 364 days of the year is left entirely on her own to find nourishment from patches of dried grass, a neighbour's unguarded hay stack or vegetable garden and in the cities to hungrily gobble up offal from the garbage bins, not to mention the multiple lashings inflicted on her for her trespasses.

In other parts of India, thai-pongal day is celebrated as Makara Sankranti with few variations to the rituals and ceremonies.

In Toronto, Bharathi Kala Mantram organized a pongal dinner and an excellent children's program for the evening. The participants were children of all ages who displayed a lot of talent and enthusiasm in their songs, dances, instrumental music and other presentations. Encouragement given to the younger generation will help cultivate in them an interest in imbibing and preserving their own rich cultural heritage, and provide a healthy outlet for their energies as they grow.

Seat reservation for Harijans

New Delhi (IBS) - Reservation of seats for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled tribes in the Lok Sabha and the State Assemblies is being extended by another 10 years, till January 1990.

The Cabinet also decided to renew the lease for the nominated members of the Anglo-Indian community for the same period.

The reservation, which had been provided for a 10 year period in 1959, was further extended for two terms up to 1980, and scheduled to lapse on January 26, 1980. The total number of seats to be reserved in the Lok Sabha for scheduled Castes is 78, and for scheduled tribes 39. In the State Assemblies they get 546 and 291 seats, respectively.

Besides the two members chosen from the Anglo-Indian Community at the Centre, the governor of each state is empowered to nominate a member apiece wherever he feels the community is not represented enough.

A major decision taken by the new Cabinet was to retain on the statute book the law providing for preventive detention of hoarders and blackmarketeers of essential commodities.

The Cabinet decided to legislate all the seven ordinances issued by the Charan Singh Government after dissolution of the Lok Sabha, barring the one placed on the donations offered by companies to political parties.

SOCIOLOGIST DEAD

New Delhi (IBS) - Dr. Kewal Motwani, a noted Sindhi sociologist died at the Theosophical Society Estate in Adyar, Madras on January 27. He was 80.

ALL THE 'RAMS'

Jaipur, Feb. 8 (UNI) - Only six of the 48 candidates whose name starts or ends with "Ram" were elected to the Lok Sabha from Rajasthan.

Fifteen began their names with "Ram" and 33 ended their names with Ram.

Thirty-one of them - all independents - lost their security deposits.

Sohan Ram Cong (U) from Jalore and Hari Ram (JD), from Bikaner, are among those who lost their security deposits.

Congress(I) fielded four "Rams" of whom three, Ram Singh from Alwar, Ram Kumar from Sawai Madhopur and Virda Ram from Jalore won while Mr. Shirsh Ram from Jhunjhunu, lost.

The Lok Dal fielded four "Rams" two of them - Daulat Ram Saran (Churu) and Kumbha Ram (Sikar) - won their seats. Bega Ram (Sriganganagar) saved his deposit but Mr. Hari Ram lost his deposit money in Bikaner.

Janata Party's five "Rams" could not bag a single seat though all of them saved their security deposits. They are: Ramji Lal (Alwar), Ram Kishen (Bharatpur), Buddhi Ram (Bayana), Ram Kanwar (Tonk), Hukma Ram retained his Nagaur seat while Sohan Ram lost his security deposit from Jalore.

100 MEDICAL SCHOOLS IN INDIA

New Delhi (IBs) - India ranks second in the world in respect of medical schools, according to the world directory of medical schools published by the World Health Organisation (WHO).

The USA, with 123 schools ranks first, while China and the USSR, with 87 schools each, come third.

DELHI/ BOMBAY

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KITCHEN

By Pranati SenGu

ROSOMLAI FOR 250

Recently I was invited to be a foo wedding of two hundred and fifty pe catered from a local Indian restauran making Rosomalai for the guests. It without three wonderful friends w delicious but typical Bengali sweet. to make rosomalai for your family or f of love. It needs a lot of patience bu Many people wanted to know how I include the recipe in this issue not on who cannot just phone me for the re not boil more than 3 qts. of milk in or to use 4 pots on 4 burners, if you can much milk in one large pot. For s prepare the cheese (channa) the d completely without any squeezing. bottom, use a heavy Dutch oven or o cold water before pouring milk into wooden spoon continuously until it

ROSOGULLAS:

45 qts. (15 jugs) milk for channa
15 lbs. cream of wheat

Khir:

45 qts. milk (15 jugs) for khir
15 can Nestle Cream (6 oz. each)
11 qts. half & half milk
4 lbs. unblanched whole almonds
8 oz. roasted unsalted pistachio nut
4 oz. cardamom, peeled and crushed
10 to 12 lbs. sugar
Rose water

Follow these simple rules to make Prepare channa four days before the 24 hours. Meanwhile make the sug the sugar and water for 4 minutes o cool. Soak almonds overnight in c cover them with 2 to 3 qts. of half refrigerator. Now prepare the rosog drained the rosogullas will break dur not use more than 1 lbs. cream of w knead channa with cream of wheat processor). Prepare channa balls m walnut. You should have about 550 plastic wrap. Cook 8 to 12 balls at a your cooker.

Boil 6 cups of water in a 3½ qt. sa for 5 qts. size) and add channa balls cover securely, place the pressure cook over high heat until the regula heat to medium high and continue the pot from the stove and place un the pressure is off, open the cover the hot rosogulla to chilled syrup. rosogullas from the syrup and cut c much as possible. Cover the draine half and half milk. Chill overnight.

On the 3rd day, prepare the khir: H 1 can Nestle cream in a large heav spoon until the milk comes to a boi then reduce heat to medium and most of the time until the volume c takes about 2 hours. While the almonds with its soaking milk in a found a food processor is very us rosogullas from the milk and arra Reserve the half and half milk from being boiled in the pan has been re cream and the reserved half and hal thick, having the consistency of a taste (about ½ cup) for each batc crushed cardamom seeds. It takes of khir. Do not let it simmer over stirring. That forms a skin on the s creamy, smooth sauce but also tur for rosomalai should be as white as over rosogullas, sprinkle chopped p rose water just before serving.

Asia's bigges

New Delhi (IBS) - A British Guiana, one cent stamp, issued in 1856, owned by a syndicate in the United States tops the list of rare stamps on display at the International exhibition here. The stamp, worth Rs. 76 lakhs, is followed by three stamps issued in Mauritius in 1867, valued at Rs 72 lakhs, Rs. 54 lakhs and Rs. 34,20,000 which are now in the possession of a Japanese collector, H. Kanai.

The four-anna Indian stamp, with the head of Queen Victoria which was issued in 1854, has the head inverted. Its value is placed at Rs 3,24,000. The Rs. 10 Gandhi service sheet issued in 1948, now has a price tag of Rs 18 lakhs against it.

Other rare stamps include the Hawaii, 1851, stamp issued as a British-India release, the 1854-

KITCHEN KORNER

By Pranati SenGupta

ROSOMLAI FOR 250

Recently I was invited to be a food co-ordinator for a Bengali wedding of two hundred and fifty people. Most of the food was catered from a local Indian restaurant. But I took the challenge of making Rosomalai for the guests. It would not have been possible without three wonderful friends who helped me to make this delicious but typical Bengali sweet. Before you rush to the kitchen to make rosomalai for your family or friends, remember it's a labour of love. It needs a lot of patience but is worth every minute of it. Many people wanted to know how I made it. So I have decided to include the recipe in this issue not only for Ottawans, but for others who cannot just phone me for the recipe. But take my advice: do not boil more than 3 qts. of milk in one pot. It is easier and quicker to use 3 pots on 4 burners, if you can handle them, rather than too much milk in one large pot. For softer and spongier rosogullas, prepare the cheese (channa) the day before and hang to drain completely without any squeezing. To prevent milk burning on the bottom, use a heavy Dutch oven or other large heavy pan, rinse with cold water before pouring milk into the pan and stir milk with a wooden spoon continuously until it comes to a boil.

ROSOGULLAS:

6.5 qts. (15 ltrs.) milk for channa
15 tbsp. cream of wheat

Khir:

6.5 qts. milk (15 ltrs) for khir
2.5 cans Nestle Cream (10 oz. each)
11 qts. half & half milk
4 lbs. unblanched whole almonds
8 oz. roasted unsalted pistachio nuts, crushed
3 oz. cardamom, peeled and crushed
10 to 12 lbs. sugar
Rose water

Follow these simple rules to make soft and spongier rosogulla. Prepare channa four days before the serving time. Drain for at least 24 hours. Meanwhile make the sugar syrup. Boil equal amount of the sugar and water for 3 minutes over high heat and then allow to cool. Soak almonds overnight in cold water. Next day, peel and cover them with 2 to 3 qts. of half and half milk and keep in the refrigerator. Now prepare the rosogullas. If the channa is not well drained the rosogullas will break during pressure in the cooker. Do not use more than 1 tbsp. cream of wheat for 3 qts. of milk's channa. Knead channa with cream of wheat well until creamy (I used a food processor). Prepare channa balls making each about the size of a walnut. You should have about 550 rosogullas. Cover them with a plastic wrap. Cook 8 to 12 balls at a time depending on the size of your cooker.

Boil 6 cups of water in a 5½ qt. size pressure cooker (more water for 5 qts. size) and add channa balls to the boiling water. Close the cover securely, place the pressure regulator on the vent pipe, and cook over high heat until the regulator begins to vibrate. Reduce heat to medium-high and continue cooking for 8 minutes. Remove the pot from the stove and place under cold running water. When the pressure is off, open the cover and with a large spoon, transfer the hot rosogulla to chilled syrup. Several hours later, remove the rosogullas from the syrup and cut each in half. Drain the syrup as much as possible. Cover the drained rosogullas with the rest of the half and half milk. Chill overnight.

On the 3rd day, prepare the khir: Heat 3 qts. of milk at a time with 1 can Nestle cream in a large heavy pan, stirring with a wooden spoon until the milk comes to a boil. Boil rapidly for 20 minutes, then reduce heat to medium and continue to evaporate, stirring most of the time until the volume of milk is reduced to half. This takes about 2 hours. While the milk is evaporating, blend the almonds with its soaking milk in a blender until almost creamy. I found a food processor is very useful for this purpose. Remove rosogullas from the milk and arrange in a deep serving bowl. Reserve the half and half milk from the rosogullas. When the milk being boiled in the pan has been reduced to almost half, add almond cream and the reserved half and half. Cook, stirring until the khir is thick, having the consistency of a thin yogurt. Add sugar to your taste (about ½ cup) for each batch of khir and mix well. Mix in crushed cardamom seeds. It takes about 3 hours to prepare one pot of khir. Do not let it simmer over a longer period of time without stirring. That forms a skin on the surface which not only prevents a creamy, smooth sauce but also turns the khir yellow in color. Khir for rosomalai should be as white as possible. Pour the cream sauce over rosogullas, sprinkle chopped pistachio nuts and chill. Sprinkle rose water just before serving.

Asia's biggest stamp show

New Delhi (IBS) - A British Guiana, one cent stamp, issued in 1856, owned by a syndicate in the United States tops the list of rare stamps on display at the International exhibition here. The stamp, worth Rs 76 lakhs, is followed by three stamps issued in Mauritius in 1867, valued at Rs 72 lakhs, Rs. 54 lakhs and Rs. 34,20,000 which are now in the possession of a Japanese collector, M. Kanai.

The four-anna Indian stamp, with the head of Queen Victoria which was issued in 1854, has the head inverted. Its value is placed at Rs 3,24,000. The Rs. 10 Gandhi service sheet issued in 1948, now has a price tag of Rs 18 lakhs against it.

Other rare stamps include the Hawaii, 1851, stamp issued as a British-India release, the 1854-close setting sheet, issued in a four-anna release and the Greek Olympic Games release of 1896. These stamps are priced at between Rs 5 lakhs to Rs 11 lakhs.

RAMANA CENTENARY

The Birth centenary of Bhagavan Sri Ramana Maharishi was celebrated at Calgary on January 26, 1980. The function included readings about Ramana and his message, which is truly Vedantic in spirit, meditation and Bhajans by Srinivas Doraiswamy. The function was organized by Dr. R. Radhakrishnan, Professor of Linguistics.

It is relevent to mention that there are two "Arunachala Ashrama (Ramana Maharishi Centre) on this continent, one in New york city and another in Nova Scotia (RR1, Bridgetown, Nova Scotia, Canada, BOS 1CO).

Prabasi's Saraswati puja

By: Manjula Das (Parakot)

The Bengali community in Toronto celebrated the annual worship of the Goddess of Learning with a full day's program. The priest performed the religious rituals and ceremonies towards noon, while in the kitchen, club members were busy preparing "bhog" which consisted of khichudi, vegetables, chutney and sweets. After the communal dinner was over, the evening's entertainment program began.

The highlights of the evening were the two childrens' presentations. The first item consisted of excerpts from the Indian epic Ramayana presented by the students of The Canadian Bengali School in Bramalea. The costumes were delightfully authentic and the children played their roles commendably to the accompaniment of live music and songs.

Credit should be given to the organizers of this Bengali school for their efforts in trying to teach the Bengali language and Indian culture to the younger generation.

This was followed by a play "Mithua", directed by Dibyendu Ghosh, and adapted from a play written by Samar Chatterjee of Calcutta Little Children's Theatre Group. The story revolved round Mithua, a lonely sick girl, who has a dream in which inanimate objects like a mail box, telephone wire, flowers, fireflies, etc. come to life and entertain her. The child is comforted by this unusual experience and falls into a peaceful sleep. The theme had a universal approach and the childrens' performances were very appealing. Live music provided by Laila Ganguli was well co-ordinated and blended with the theme. This presentation was well received by the audience.

A Bharatanatyam recital by Manjula Das followed this play. However because the PA system failed, an otherwise excellent repertoire, lost much of its impact. A short play entitled "Pakhi", directed by Rathin Ghosh, was presented by the adults. The only thing worthwhile mentioning here was snatches of good acting by Bimal Chatterjee.

The function was well attended and credit for the success of the day's celebrations and delicious supper goes to the Chairman, Deepak Chanda as well as the numerous others who helped him make it a success.

New ministries

Itanagar, Feb. 10 (UNI) - A new three member Congress(I) ministry in Arunachal Pradesh, headed by Gagong Apang, assumed office ending two and half months of President's rule in the Union territory.

Mr. Apang and his two colleagues, Mr. Apriso Krong and Mr. Tengam Ngemu were sworn-in by Lt.-Governor B. N. Haldipur.

The two Ministers are new entrants.

This is the fourth ministry in the union territory.

Panaji, Goa, Feb. 8 (UNI) - A new government headed by Pratap Singh Rane assumed office replacing the eight month-old President's rule in the Union Territory.

Mr. Rane and his three-member team were sworn in by the Goa Lt. Governor, Col. Pratap Singh Gill.

Mr. Rane's government is the only Congress(I) government in the country.

Pondicherry, Feb. 8 (UNI) - The first ever DMK-Congress(I) coalition ministry assumed office here after fourteen months of President's Rule.

The ministry has the largest ever strength of six members. Special sanction had to be obtained from the home ministry for inducting the sixth minister. The Union Territory had only five ministers in all previous cabinets.

Mr. D. Ramachandran, who heads the coalition ministry which came to power on an anti-merger wave, said his government would strive to preserve the separate status of the union territory.

Censorship?

New Delhi (Ibs) - Noted jurist M.C. Chagla said that the media had already ceased to be free even before Mrs. Indira Gandhi assumed office as Prime Minister.

Narrating his personal experience Chagla said "What can one expect after she becomes PM? Chagla, who had been interviewed for three minutes over Bombay Doordarshan, said when he saw the programme what he said was completely deleted, and just half-a-minutes mundane conversation slipped out to the viewer.

MRS. GANDHI JOINS IN FOLK DANCE

New Delhi, Feb. 12 (UNI) - Prime Minister Indira Gandhi witnessed a colourful pageant by about 400 folk dancers and tableaux artists from all over the country at the sprawling Teen Murti house here.

Resplendent in their colourful costumes, traditional headgear and jewellery, the dancers performed with gay abandon to the accompaniment of lilting folk music.

Mrs. Gandhi joined some of the dancers, who had taken part in this year's republic day celebrations here.

About 50 tribal representatives including 20 women presented gifts to Mrs. Gandhi who reciprocated the gesture.

A Govt. that works

New Delhi (IBS) - In promising during her election campaign "a Government that works", Mrs. Gandhi had touched a responsive chard in the electorate's mood. This alone can explain not only the size but the spread of the support her party won, confounding experts whose fussy arithmetic had attached what in retrospect looks like excessive weight to other balancing considerations.

A Government which works, both in the sense of taking decisions when making difficult choices and getting value for money spent on a vast bureaucracy and investments in giant public sector undertakings, is certainly a worthy aim. If a change in Government is a necessary condition for achieving this, it would be acceptable even to those Indians who have their reservations about Mrs. Gandhi.

Coming events

The Indian Student Association of University of Ottawa invites students to a sleigh ride at Camp Fortune on February 23 from 5:30 - 10:30 p.m.

For more details call: 521-6945.

They were elected

Arya Samaj, Toronto, affiliated with Vedic Aryan Cultural Society of Ontario:

President: **A.C. Erry**
Vice President: **Kewal Sethi**
Secretary: **Om Sharma**
Asst. Secretary: **D.R. Chhabra**
Asst. Secretary: **Mrs. Abhilash Pathak**
Treasurer: **Dr. R. Kshyap**
Asst.Treasurer: **Tarun Sehgal**
Committee Members: **Yogi Suri, Krishan Sharma, R.P. Chopra, Charan Sharma.**

India unbeatable

New Delhi (Ibs) - India is supposed to be the toughest sell in the US market, according to a US travel writer.

According to him, people abroad refuse to 'buy' an Indian holiday, thanks to the negative image the nation has acquired. "Poverty, and the high cost of a return ticket for a holiday -- one thousand dollars for a single return ticket -- is the chief reason for dislike of India by American tourists," said the scribe, Mrs. M. Clement. Mrs. Clement, addressing members of the "Asian Travel Writers Association", told people that in "terms of spiritualism, beauty and peace, India was unbeatable.

"Another hurdle lies in the short tourist spell -- October through March, which gives people the option of visiting just Kashmir and some hill stations in summer, and most people are not content with just seeing a section of India, after spending thousands of dollars to get across," she said.

Tourism offices in USA were inadequate, she felt, for their work was too little to have any impact on the general public.

Indian film export

New Delhi (IBS) - More than 70 Indian films have found their way out of the country as revenue earners by the Indian Motion Pictures Export Corporation (IMPEC).

While Fiji has selected 20 films worth 1,25,000 pounds; the delegation from Sengal at 'Filmtosav 80' has selected 47 films for his country.

A Malayalam film has been sold to North Africa of all places. Low budget films have made a slight dent in the foreign market, with 'Nishant' having been bought by an east African state.

The Film Finace Corporation, in turn, has short listed 16 movies for import, and more are likely to be selected shortly. The festival has been successful since most of the movies shown this time have not been put through a rigorous screening by the authorities - variety has been the spice of the festival and the chief reason for its success.

Jullunder-London direct dialling

New Delhi (IBS) - Efforts are being made to introduce direct dialling between Jullundur and London at the earliest, G.T. Narayanan, general manager, telephones said.

Negotiations are underway with the British telephone authorities and phone traffic would be a boon to Jullundur, where a large number of trunk calls are received daily.

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CLASSIFIEDS

Matrimonials

Matrimonial correspondence invited for a tall handsome Sikh boy, 27, final year engineering student in Canada. Caste no bar. Write M-1668, The Canadian India Times.

Suitable match for Punjabi Arora girl, 29, bright and beautiful, working and well settled, family in Toronto. Write in confidence giving details to M-1669, The Canadian India Times.

Matrimonial correspondence invited for a Muslim girl, 27, holding a Canadian citizenship, well settled Muslim boys may write with full particulars, recent photograph and telephone number to M-1670, The Canadian India Times.

Matrimonial correspondence invited for handsome bachelor, Indian origin in mid forties, European educated professional engineer with above average position, well settled in Canada. Only seriously interested singles, divorcees, widows, preferably over thirty may reply in confidence with returnable photo if possible. Only personal merits considered. M-1671, The Canadian India Times.

Doctor brother invites correspondence from Jat Sikh gentlemen settled in U.S. or Canada for a pretty, fair, homeloving, matriculate, 25, 5'-2" who would be visiting brother shortly in Canada. Contact Dr. Kooner, 501-751 Parkdale, Ottawa, Ont. Canada. (613)-728-9985).

Suitable match preferably in Canada for an innocently divorced Rajput girl, 25, sweet, homely, attractive. M.A. Economics working in States. Caste no bar. Write M-1598, The Canadian India Times.

Gwalior antiques

Gwalior, Feb. 8 (UNI) - Four beautiful pieces of sculpture from the Gwalior Archaeological Museum will soon enrich the collections of the Philadelphia Museum of Art in the United States.

These pieces, consisting of the figures of Lord Shiva, Nandi the sacred bull, and the seductive Goddess Indrani, are being loaned to the Philadelphia Museum for two years.

The image of the dancing Shiva with its left foot on a rectangular seat is carved in relief inside a circular niche decorated with lotus stalks and buds.

The Gwalior Archaeological Museum is housed in a fifteenth century mansion -- Gujari Mahal -- built by Raja Man Singh in 1486 A.D. and is situated in the shadow of the Gwalior Fort.

On view is sculpture of various periods of Indian history and a remarkable assortment of inscriptional records and coins.

Snake record broken

Pune, Feb. 12 (UNI) - Twenty-eight year-old Neelim Kumar Khaire claimed to have set a world record by staying with 72 poisonous snakes for 72 hours at a stretch.

The beaming business management graduate came out of the glass house containing the reptiles at 4 p.m. marking the end to the nerve-breaking ordeal he undertook to prove that snakes were not man's enemies.

He probably succeeded in driving home the point to about 70,000 visitors, who saw him moving freely among the reptiles, which did not harm him though they fought among each other.

Mr. Khaire came out "all fit", a doctor said while three of the companions died in fierce battles in the cabin during the last three days.

He had entered the specially constructed pentagon-shaped chamber to live with 27 monocellate cobras, 24 russels' vipers, nine bindcellate cobras, eight banded kraits and four kraits.

Mr. Khaire was greeted by a large gathering assembled at the B.J. Medical College sports ground, where the special snake-pit was erected to break the record of Peters Sneeman of South Africa, who had stayed with only 18 snakes, though for a longer period.

Prices dip

New Delhi (IBS) - Even before it was finally announced that Mrs. Gandhi's Congress-I had triumphed, the trend of the counting going their way caused prices of certain commodities to begin to dip, commodities the Janata and Lok Dal government had failed to control despite much too much talk to the contrary.

Onions, which zoomed to Rs 5 a kg. from Rs 1.50 or so, dropped by a rupee as the Congress-I neared victory; sugar, which ruled at Rs. 5 a kg. and Rs. 5.50 in some parts, came down to Rs. 3.90 though stocks were almost not available. A good number of items in shops suddenly began displaying price-tags which had disappeared early 1979. Price tags were compulsory under the emergency).

Even as it became clear that Mrs. Gandhi would form the new government a spate of burglaries riddled the Capital, almost as if this was the burglars' last big chance. Mrs. Gandhi had said, as her party moved to a majority at the polls, that law and order would receive first attention with her, then prices and cost of living.

Blindness research

New Delhi (IBS) - Hyderabad is going to become a world centre for a true multi-disciplinary approach for prevention of blindness due to Vitamin A deficiency.

Prof. Carl Kupfer, member of the advisory committee, at the World Health Organisation (WHO), the city of Hyderabad, with its nationally renowned centre for nutrition and equally well-known Sarojini Devi Eye Hospital an ideal place for eye research.

The project would involve nutrition experts, bio-chemists, opthalmologists and so on. Mr. Kupfer told newsmen that about four lakh children in the world today suffered from diseases centering around malnutrition - half of them died and the other half became blind as a result of this. India, the Philippines and some South American countries were the chief places this happened he said.

300,000 Asians in the US

New Delhi (IBS) - The number of Asian settlers in USA has risen from 70,000 in 1970 to about 3 lakhs at present. The 1980 census will, however, give the correct picture. Indians will be listed as a separate entity for the first time in the rolls.

Association of Indians has, however, persuaded the Census Bureau to list Indians separately.

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